THE INDEPENDENT

THE MAGAZINE

SPECIAL PRICE

Shares dive as Barclays chief quits

Whe stock market value of Barclays, the high street bank. after it announced the shock resignation of its chief executive, Martin Taylor, yesterday.

His departure, with a firm plus pay-off, came after mounting tension at the head of the bank and prompted feverish speculation that the crisis could open the way to a takeover bid by rival Lloyds-TSB.

Mr Taylor's resignation was accepted at an emotional board meeting at Barclays headquarters in the City of London on Thursday night. A hurried statement was drafted and released to the Stock Exchange at 7.30am yesterday, before the tart of trading.

Colleagues said that he had made up his mind to quit last weekend after losing the confidence of the board in the vake of a series of setbacks that included losing £325m in Russia's financial collapse and his controversial decision to participate in the \$3.75bn (£2.6bn) bail-out of the troubled American hedge fund, Long-Term Capital Management, two

months ago. Talk within the bank yesterday was that the final straw for Mr Taylor was a decision by fellow board members to veto his plans to mount a takeover bid for Halifax, the building society turned bank.

Mr Taylor said yesterday: "This has been coming for a while. Crucially it is about my

ability to get things done." The resignation caught the City by surprise. Within minutes of the announcement heavy selling had wiped £2bn off the bank's market value. It closed at £13.74, down £1.14p on the

Financial Editor

There was a build-up."

Mr Taylor, 46, was consid-

ered one of Britain's brightest

businessmen when he joined

Barclays in 1993. He is also well

connected in New Labour cir-

cles, having accepted after the

election last May to head

Labour's tax and benefit review

in the week but had been pre-

vented from formally tendering

his resignation until a meeting

of the full Barclays Bank board

After a series of hectic meet

ings of directors, at which the

terms of his departure were fi-

nalised, his resignation was

accepted at a board meeting on

Barclays vigorously denied

suggestions yesterday that Mr

Taylor's sudden departure was

prompted by either a sexual or

years ago, Mr Taylor had

presided over radical changes.

However his relationship with

icism of his handling of the sale

last year of BZW, Barclays' in-

vestment banking business,

and more recently after the Au-

gust financial crisis in which

Barclays was by far the worst

Colleagues said that, as far as

hit of the high street banks.

they knew, Mr Taylor had noth-

ing else lined up. A former jour-

nalist with the Financial Times,

he had spoken in the past of pur-

suing an academic career.

the City began to sour after crit-

could be convened.

Thursday night.

expectations.

Colleagues said that he had made up his mind to go earlier



day. Analysts said the fact that Mr Taylor had left so suddenly and with no clear successor meant the bank was highly vulnerable to a takeover bid, with Lloyds-TSB heading the queue.

Mr Taylor's place will be taken by Sir Peter Middleton, '62, a former senior Treasury official until a successor is found. Andrew Buxton, the Bar-

to have had differences with Mr will be £1.9bn, well short of City Taylor, said it had been clear for some time that Mr Taylor had been "restless".

"It has been a tough year," Mr Buxton said. "I can say hand on heart that there was not one sin-

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- Martin Taylor
- profile page3 **■** Takeover talk

Business, page 19

Golden handshake: Britons eye £1m prize...



financial scandal or massive losses. The bank also denied suggestions of a boardroom

rift. However, the bank did ac-Golden boot: Striker is paid £900,000 to go Since joining Barclays five



TIM HENMAN'S handshake was By LEN GOULD almost as warm as his bank manager's smile yesterday despite losing to Greg Rusedski in the £2.2m ATP Championship in Hanover.

Britain's No 2, Rusedski won 6-2, 6-4 but Henman, the No 1, had already qualified for the semi-finals and a guaranteed minimum payday of £200,000 taking his earnings for the year to more than £1million. If he wins the semifinal Henman will collect Ferguson: Pocketing £9m another £200,000 with a cool

£500.000 on top if he goes on to take the first prize.

Yesterday's match had been billed as the unofficial British championship but Henman seemed to have his mind on his next contest against Spain's Carlos Moya today, while Rusedski had an outside chance to qualify for the other semi-final of the competition.

Henman's latest windfall

agreeing to be transferred to Newcastle United. receives the golden farewell

The Scottish striker, who was sold for £8million, because he did not ask Everton for a transfer. Ferguson

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Ferguson will receive a season, but his pay will rise £900,000 "bonus" just for from £1m at Everton to nearly £1.7m a year at Newcastle, climbing over the seasons until it runs out in 2003. With the Everton settlement, he

Blow to Blair as Labour comes third in Scots poll

TONY BLAIR'S attempts to launch a Labour fightback in Scotland suffered a severe setback yesterday when the party came a humiliating third behind the Tories in a by-election.

Despite an autumn cabinet offensive north of the border, the Scottish National Party (SNP) scored a decisive victory in a contest to fill a vacant European Parliament seat repreenting North East Scotland. Labour's disastrous result shattered the party's cautious optimism that it could burst the SNP bubble before next May's first elections to the Scottish Parliament. Although the SNP's resurgence had threatened to stop Labour becoming the largest party in the new assembly recent opinion polls showed Labour had recaptured the lead in Scotland. In the event, the SNP's Ian

Hudghton held the seat for his party with 57,445 votes. Struan Stevenson, a veteran Tory campaigner, came a surprise second with 23,744. Kathleen Walker Shaw trailed for Labour in third place with 22,086 votes.

The by-election was caused by the death of Allan Macartney, the SNP deputy leader, earlier this year Alex Salmond, the SNP leader, described it as "sensational" for his party and a "complete and utter humiliation" for Labour.

Ministers blamed the low turnout, of just 20 per cent. The Tories, meanwhile, claimed they had turned the corner in Scotland, after losing all their seats there in last year's general election

AS THE Chilean Foreign Min- BY KIM SENGUPTA AND ister held crisis talks with Robin Cook yesterday, evidence was mounting that British businesses are losing lucrative con-tracts in a backlash over the

Pinochet affair On the day that the former dictator was ordered by magistrates to appear in court on 11 December for an extradition hearing, a Hertford-based firm revealed to The Independent that it had lost a multi-million pound order as a result of the general's arrest.

Lockheed Martin Solartron a subsidiary of the US aviation giant - was poised to provide flight simulator equipment to the Chilean Army. "We were on the edge of securing the deal which would have been very important to a small company like us," said a senior company source yesterday.

ANDREW BUNCOMBE

was arrested we received a fax from the army saying all deals with British companies were on hold until the matter had been resolved. In reality I that deal now. It could have an effect on jobs - a handful of jobs could be dependent on this."

The company is likely to be the first of several trade victims, particularly within the defence industry. The Ministry of Defence's Defence Export Services Organisation said there had been other problems. A spokesman said: "Some companies have reported difficulties since this affair started."

A sales manager with another company in the defence industry said: "A lot of businesses are obviously very wor-"Then the day after Pinochet ried. People say this is a Insulza: Talks with Cook

political thing, but it is having commercial effects."

The Chilean Foreign Minister Jose Miguel Insulza, a socialist who went into exile after General Pinochet overthrew the democratically elected government of Salvador Allende, think it will be very hard to win arrived in London vesterday and is believed to have told Mr



decision on the extradition proyesterday agreed to his reextradition hearing.

Review, page 3

Primus BT Saving **British firms lose contracts** NATIONAL RATES 5D 8p 38% **13p** 49p **73**% in backlash over Pinochet **39p** 108p 64% 15p 39p 62% Cook, the Foreign Secretary, **15p** 58p 74% that the detention was putting enormous strains on Chile's NEW ZEALAND 13p 49p 73% fledgling democracy. According to Chilean sources, Mr Insulza also **15p** 79p 81%

stressed during the one-hour meeting that the coalition gov-ernment of Eduardo Frei has **16p** 67p 76% not neglected the issue of 38p 131p 71% human rights abuse under the Pinochet regime and steps were being taken to pursue 7p 24p 71%

Mr Cook is said to have as sured Mr Insulza that the Government's actions were not "politically motivated". Downing Street said yester-

those responsible.

day Jack Straw would make his ceedings alone. Magistrates quest to postpone next week's Leading article,

INSIDE THIS SECTION

Journalist killer jalled A Dublin drug gang member was jailed for Veronica Guerin murder Home P5

Environment plea David Bellamy is calling for a greener Christianity

Extradition call Poland may seek to extradite a British woman for communist-era crimes Foreign P13 French resistant

Alpine villagers stay put

despite avalanche threat

Foreign P16

New head for Psion Computer makers Psion appointed a new, 36year-old chief executive Business P19

Barty's U-turn Newcastle's David Batty could rejoin Leeds

INSIDE THE REVIEW

Fergal Keane Fond memories of my uncle Mike in New York City

Sue Arnold Two cheers for the radically reformed NHS

Saturday Essay Is the theme park the model for the future of our cities? Comment P6

Better British alsles Why US supermarkets need our expertise Features P9

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Some like it Scots

TEVISIE STEVISIE

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The new Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh Travel P21

IN THE SEVEN-SECTION INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY **TOMORROW**

FOR ONLY



The day I sat on the kerb with Kate Hepburn

BY DAVID THOMSON

Whythe Germans want me in bed

ALAIN DE BOTTON'S DIARY

Cł



Don't ask me about De Niro

CHARMAINE SINCLAIR ON PORNOGRAPHY, MODELLING AND THAT OLD BOYFRIEND

BRITAIN'S BEST-WRITTEN SUNDAY NEWSPAPER

4,500 jobs may go as firms cut back

cused of mismanaging the economy yesterday after 4,500 jobs across the country were lost or put under threat. The car, textile, oil and insurance sectors suffered as the losses hit factories and offices from

Teesside to the Sussex coast. The biggest blow was at Rover, the car maker, where up to 3,000 jobs will be lost as part long-term future of the giant factory at Longbridge in the West Midlands. Rover and the unions sealed a deal on more flexible working practices, which will lead to job losses but end weeks of speculation that Longbridge was set to close.

The fine print has not been finalised but the future of Longbridge, its 14,000 workers and £1.5bn of investment in Rover by BMW, its parent company, looks secure. Union leaders were last night consulting local representatives about details of the deal. The package will have to be put to a ballot of all 39,000

Transport Correspondent

week to complete. The job losses will be carried out through and unions signed a deal in 1991 that guaranteed no compulsory redundancies.

"Rover Group and trade unions have reached an agreeof a deal that has secured the ment in principle on key issues surrounding employment cost savings and working time flexibility." the statement said.

The leaders at the main unions, the T&G, MSF and the AEEU, welcomed the deal, Bill Morris, T&G general secretary, said: "The investment commitment that has been made will now be honoured and fully implemented."

makes shirts for Marks & Spencer, is closing factories in Redcar on Teesside and Stokeon-firent with the loss of 600 johs, Insurer Royal & Sun Alliance is closing two customer



Workers yesterday at the Longbridge plant, which won a reprieve, although some 3,000 jobs will go

and Brighton in Sussex, axing 300 staff. Another 180 jobs are to go at the London headquarters of Lasmo, the oil and gas company. Detergent maker Lever Brothers announced 150 job cuts at plants in Merseyside and Cheshire.

Meanwhile, 400 jobs could be under threat at the last deep coal mine in Wales, Hirwaun, in the Cynon Valley, if planning permission is refused to extend a waste tip.

Peter Mandelson, Trade and Industry Secretary, said the

LIGHTING UP

Rover announcement was Everyone in manufacturing is ing Rover management when what the Government has been working for since the beginning. Of course the company is not out of the woods yet, but the basis is there now to create a strong, successful company."

John Redwood, shadow trade secretary, expressed relief at the news but blamed the Government for causing the

"Labour's made it too dear to make things in Britain. ...

"great news" for the West Mid-finding the conditions tough lands and the country. "It is and it is largely the Government that has done the damage." Rover's profitability was hit this year by the high pound, interest rates, business taxes and the cost of employing peo-

> the Government had increased for companies. "It's a poor Christmas present for Rover workers that they either lose their jobs or

David Chidgey, Liberal Democrat trade spokesmen, said:

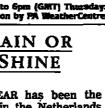
"Our manufacturers cannot be competitive until the Government makes a commitment to the cure, bringing down the nle, which, Mr Redwood said, level of interest rates and the

The only good news was in Norwich, where a call centre for KLM, the Dutch airline, will provide employment for their overtime payments. It's no

WEATHERLINE

AIR QUALITY





this century - and there's still one month to go, says the So far 1,155mm has fallen

topping the 1,148mm that fell in 1965; the wettest year to date, and well above the 802mm annual average. This year, the Dutch have been drenched mainly in June, Sep nber and October



THE ATLANTIC NOON TODAY

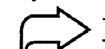
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THE INDEPENDENT

Bank crisis: The city is stunned as Blairite high-flyer quits Barclays suddenly, claiming he is unable to get things done

Dramatic exit that was a bolt out of the blue

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

IT IS not every day that the chief executive of an FTSE 100 company with 15 million customers, a market share of 20 per cent inar problems street in the land decides to Think products street in the same without Part of Chalger Line: Warning.

The reason when the business in question when the pushes that very or the late mail the to model of probity dependability moder or proving and it is virtubringing the ally unheard of when the chief Billing Class executive in question is giving The only could represent lifestyle that goes with it, withwhere Jest out a new job to step into.

h. 11 the Dutch And yet that is what Martin Taylor, the chief executive of Barclays Bank did yesterday morning, to the amazement of the City, the banking industry and, most of all, his 61,000 staff.

The drama began to unfold last Monday morning. Mr Taylor who had been with the bank since 1993, left his regency terraced home in Blackheath, south-east London, with something important on his mind.

He is a man with a reputation for being decisive. By the time he arrived at Barclays' offices in the heart of the City, he nd decided to tell his closest dileagues of his intention to

By noon that day, he had made his intentions known to about 10 senior executives within the bank. Sir Andrew Large, the deputy chairman, was away on business in Kuala Lumour. so the job of handling the sucession crisis was

Peter Middleton. A former mandarin and a board member of Barclays for seven years, Sir Peter is an old hand at dealing with controversial departures. As permanent secretary at the Treasury, he dealt with Nigel Lawson's resignation as chancellor.

Sir Peter telephoned the bank's most senior non-executive director, Sir Nigel Mobbs, the boss of the property group Slough Estates.

Sir Nigel met Mr Taylor the following day to discuss his resignation and, it is thought, to test out whether the chief executive could be persuaded to

When it became apparent that Mr Taylor's mind was made up, a board meeting was convened for Thursday evening, immediately after Sir Andrew had landed back at Heathrow from the Far East, to accept the resignation and

a see severance terms.
So to the announcement. The official, authorised version of Mr Taylor's departure from one of the biggest jobs in British business at the age of just 46, is that he had completed his task at Barclays. After five years in the top job, it was



baton to a new management

From the chairman down the line never faltered yesterday. And, in case any members of the bank's staff were tempt ed to give a different account, there was a large notice in the marble-tiled lobby yesterday sternly instructing them not to speak to the press.

The official mantra, repeated all day vesterday was as follows. There had been no boardroom bust-up. Mr Taylor's decision to leave was entirely his own. There was no dispute over the bank's strategy and there was quite definitely no black hole lurking in

The problem is that no one believes Barclays, not even the City spin doctors brought in to try to keep a lid on the affair. What can be said with certainty is that Mr Taylor's departure is not connected either to ill health or to a "Ron Davies factor"

Beyond that, the City is awash with speculation. The commonly held assumption is that Mr Taylor had a seismic and irreconcilable difference of oninion with the rest of the should be heading

As one pin-striped, redleaves like this, it is either a disagreement of policy or he has been asked to leave.'

Mr Taylor, bound by confidentiality, legal restrictions and a big fat pay-off, would give nothing away yesterday, but he did volunteer one telling comment to the London Evening Standard newspaper: "This has been coming for a while. Crucially, it is about my ability to get things done." Those do not sound like the words of a man who has come to a natural hiatus in his career and has decided to part company

with his employer amicably. The things that Mr Taylor wanted to "get done" are well known. Barclays has 21 million account holders, 20 per cent of both the personal and small business market, 2,000 branches and, in Barclaycard, the country's biggest credit card. But for all its size, Barclays has become a minnow in world

banking terms. The eagle that is the bank's symbol first spread time to move on and hand the its wings in 1736 when James

that Barclays has approached Barclay joined with a family goldsmith and banking group under the sign of a black

By the late 19th century, it had grown to become Britain's secland and by the late Fifties it had board about where the bank surpassed the Midland. Barclays' prime position as Britain's biggest bank was one of the reabraced American executive at sons why it was targeted so un-Barclays observed yesterday. relentingly throughout the "When someone like Taylor Seventies by anti-apartheid groups protesting at its invest-

ments in South Africa. But in the last decade, the of market capitalisation, at £22bn, it is half the value of Lloyds-TSB and HSBC, the owners of Midland. On an international scale, it pales by comparison with some of Wall Street's bulge bracket banks like Citigroup.

financial institution or a merger of equals. For a long time NatWest was in Barclays' sights until it became obvious that, despite Mr Taylor's closeness to high-street banking would not

But Mr Taylor, by his own account, also discussed the possibility of a merger with Standard Chartered bank over dinner with its chief executive, Malcolm Williamson, in February this year, although the two men cannot agree on who popped the question first.

the mortgage bank Halifaxi about a marriage. Six months igo, Barclays would have been with its superior market capi- pockets. Yesterday, as one ond biggest bank after the Mid- talisation of £30bn. Now, however it would be a merger of equals, Barclays shares having

fallen by 30 per cent from their peak this year. When Mr Taylor arrived five years ago in the aftershock of recession, reckless bad lending and Barclays' first ever loss, it still had pretensions to be an investment bank on a world bank has lost ground. In terms scale. However, it has since reined in its ambitions. Along with NatWest, Barclays has been forced to beat an igno-

minious retreat from invest-

ment banking, taking a £688m loss on the sale of BZW to Credit Suisse First Boston. Unfortunately, the invest-Mr Taylor's answer was to engineer a takeover of another retain, renamed Barclays Capment banking business it did ital, has scarcely fared any better. Barclays was hit hardest among all British banks by this year's financial collapse in world markets. It lost £250m Labour, such a concentration of through the Russian crisis and was also caught up in the col-lapse of the hedge fund Long Term Capital Management,

\$300m investment. Barclays' share price, its firepower to grow the business and, as yesterday's dramatic an-The latest speculation is nouncement shows, the life ex-

Martin Taylor, who decided on Monday morning to leave one of the biggest jobs in British business Financial Times

pectancy of its chief executive. His departure may presage yet more turbulent times for the bank, perhaps even surrender able to eat Halifax for breakfast to a larger rival with deeper

headquarters, that was not the issue uppermost in the mind. "I haven't really thought about Martin Taylor, I'm more interested in what I'm having for hmch," he said. The City is that kind of place.

The day the stress got to 'Two-brains Taylor'

IF THERE is one characteristic By NIGEL COPE that appears to define Martin Taylor it is the scope of his intellect. Colleagues joke that he has a brain the size of Jupiter. And his nicknames focus on his boffin-like qualities. Martin "Two Brains" Taylor, is one. "Helicopter intellect", is another. A glance at his credentials show that the plaudits are

The 46-year-old Wunderkind speaks eight languages, includ-ing Mandarin which he chose cause it was difficult". Educated at Eton and Oxford, he followed graduation with a career that seemed as effortless as it was meteoric. It took him from being editor of the influential Lex column of the Financial Times, to head of Courtaulds Textiles before joining Barclays as chief executive five years ago, at 41.

He is one of Tony Blair's closest allies in the business world and earlier this year was made head of the Government's task force on welfare reform.

Though clearly brilliant, he is no cold fish and colleagues warm to his seductive combination of arrogant certainty and charm. His speech is fast and precise the ideas tumbling from his mind almost as fast as he can shape them into words. Though his approach is laid-back, this is often mistaken for a lack of urgency. "Too precious for words," one City source says. In fact it stems more from his intellectual approach to problem solving.

Born in Burnley, he is the son of an RAF pilot who died when Taylor was eight. He showed early promise and gained a place at a Yorkshire prep school before winning a scholarship to Eton. After Oxford he worked as a journalist, spending four years at Reuters, the news agency, before joining the Financial Times. After several offers of jobs in the City he chose industry instead, and in 1982 joined Courtaulds as

Associate City Editor

chairman, Sir Christopher Hogg, another Old Etonian, Seven years on and Taylor was made chief executive of Courtaulds Textiles, the clothing and thread part of the group. He was 38.

It wasn't long before Bar-Taylor had banked with Barclays since he was 13 he had never worked in the industry. But the bank was crying out for someone with his strategic vision. Stuffy and family dominated. Barclays was in turmoil after a disastrous lending binge in the Eighties. Taylor was made chief executive in 1993. At 41 he was the youngest head of a UK clearing bank and an outsider in the pin-striped world of the Square Mile. He was also the first non-family member to run the Barclays flefdom, which has been dominated by five families in its history. "At first I was astonished to be approached," he recalls. "Then I was fascinated."

Once in post he set about reform with gusto. Internal disciplines were tightened and more than a billion pounds was returned to shareholders. He sold off BZW, the equities division, and has more recently come under pressure to sell Barclays Capital, the bank's operation. There have also been reports that Taylor wanted a merger between Barclays and another financial institution. Staff vesterday were of the view that a disagreement with the rest of the board over strategy led to his sudden decision.

Though he has quit his million a year position with no job to go to, it seems certain that "Two Brains" Taylor will not be short of offers. In the meantime, he can devote time to one of the few hobbies he lists among his interests: taking long walks in the country and talking to himself.

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topdogforchristmas

The Art of

Focus groups kill off 162 years of Midland history

By PETER THAL LARSEN

MIDLAND BANK, one of Britain's oldest and best-known banking names, is to disappear from the High Street after 162 years because of a decision by its parent company, the giant HSBC group, to give all its businesses around the world the same name.

From tomorrow, Midland will be renamed HSBC. Over the coming year the Midland scrapped its trademark griffin, name will disappear from the replacing it with HSBC's redbank's 1,700 branches, to be replaced with HSBC's logo. The ink's seven million customers will also receive new cheque

books and credit cards. HSBC has been preparing for the switch for some time. customers were more likely to Last year, Midland quietly

ternet



and white hexagon logo. At the same time, the bank's traditional yellow and blue colours began to disappear from its A spokesman for HSBC said

the successful telephone bank which is part of Midland, will not be changing its name.
The decision brings to an end a 162-year history that stretches back to the height of the industrial revolution. Midland was founded in 1836 in Union Street, Birmingham, by Charles Geach, a former Bank

ganisation. "We have found

that Midland is not more re-

spected or disliked than any of

the other clearing banks," he said. However, First Direct,

of England employee, with the help of the city's leading merchants and manufacturers. By 1918, it had become the largest bank in the world with deposits of £335m. But in 1987 trust the bank when they re- it was taken over by HSBC,

alised it was part of a global or- owners of the Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank

The name change is part of a \$50m worldwide exercise by HSBC to establish a single, global brand for all its financial services operations. The group owns banks in the Far East, North and South America. It also has a large investment benking division.

"Increasingly, the financial services industry and modern communications are borderless. More and more people travel internationally," said John Bond, HSBC's chairman. "We are developing a growing range of products and services which are marketed around the world. Our strategy calls for the development of a strong

Families plan court action on vaccines

EIGHT FAMILIES have lodged BY GLENDA COOPER writs in the High Court this week in what could become a huge legal battle to prove that These children will be depenrubella (MMR) jab has dam- These parents feel outraged." aged hundreds of children

A further 350 families have been granted legal aid to fight for compensation for their children, solicitors said. Many of published a study of 12 children them are likely to be among the with bowel disease and autism 700 people attending a debate in The Lancet which suggestin London today looking into the ed there might be a connection evidence about vaccines.

Richard Barr, the solicitor co-ordinating the action, said that more than 1,000 parents had now come forward claiming that their children had been

damaged by the jab. "I was initially sceptical," to three years I've been involved, I have come to the conclusion that something needs investigating. I think it is no longer good enough to say that these all cases are just a

coincidence." He said that, if successful, compensation figures could "These are very serious cases. syndrome.

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Social Affairs Correspondent

the measles, mumps and dent for the rest of their lives.

The debate over the vaccines intensified earlier this year after researchers at the Royal Free Hospital, in London, with the vaccine.

As a result, in some areas of the country, up to 25 per cent of parents have refused permission for their children to have the triple vaccine.

But a subsequent meeting of 37 scientists, brought together he said. "But over the last two by the Medical Research Council, concluded there was no reason to change current vaccination practice. Two months later. The Lancet reported that researchers from Helsinki University had traced children who received the vaccine over a period of 14 years, between 1982 and 1996, but had found no reach millions of pounds. cases of autism or any similar

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Eight families are beginning High Court action over the MMR inoculation of children

be speaking at today's debate, organised by the newsletter What Doctors Don't Tell You, said that "there was a problem with perception, not with the re-

ality. The trouble is parents have been scared."

Dr David Elliman, who will as an immunisation co-ordinator for 10 years, firmly supports skills after having the vaccine. the use of vaccination.

But Jackie Fletcher of Jabs (Justice, Action, Basic Support) disagrees. She is one of the parents to have been grantseven; but she says he has lost for other people's children."

speech and communication

We went to see the Department of Health last year but they have not done anything,' she said. "They are refusing to investigate our children, and ed legal aid for her son, Robert, thus refusing to improve things

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Lynne McTaggart, author of What Doctors Don't Tell You, said she hoped the debate would be "a fair fight".

"We want to look at whether vaccines are safe and effective," she said. "We want to hear the evidence from both sides of

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Football cities face total ban on drink

TULINDEPENDENT

THE SALE and consumption of By JASON BENNETTO alcohol could be banned from entire towns and city districts for up to 24 hours at a time, to prevent violence at football matches, under Government proposals announced yesterday. Suspected hooligan ring-

leaders could also have their passports confiscated for five days before international games without the police ob-taining a criminal conviction.

There are additional plans to outlaw indecent chanting by supporters during games. The measures are part of Government plans to crack

down on violence and mayhem in and around football stadia. Civil liberty campaigners vesterday criticised some of the proposals and warned they would be open to abuse.

Among the initiatives un-veiled yesterday are plans to set a curfew on the sale and consumption of alcohol on match days where police believe hooliganism is likely. Kate Hoey, the Home Office minister, said yesterday that in extreme cases large areas of cities could be made alcohol-free zones.

She suggested that drinking could also be outlawed in pubs along routeways and areas referees and players. around train stations used by fans. This could include a ban on the sale of alcohol in supermarkets and outdoor drinking. The ban would affect both football followers and mem-

bers of the public alike. The consultation document, Review of Football-Related Legislation, says: "This mea-

Crime Correspondent sure ... would be for use only on g those exceptional situations

where police and intelligence reports indicate the potential for significant levels of trouble."

In another move the Government and police propose to introduce a law that would allow the courts to force suspected troublemakers, who have not been convicted of any crimes, to hand over their passports for five days. The police would only have to show a court that they had "reasonable grounds" to believe that the suspects are "likely" to become involved in violence.

But Liz Parratt, campaigns manager of Liberty, the civil rights group, said: "Any measure based on the logic of we know he's guilty but can't prove it' should ring alarm bells."

Racist chanting by one per son will also become an offence under the proposals - at present it has to be at least two people in "unison". But the plans also suggest outlawing indecent" chanting, which could hit supporters who delight in shouting obscene abuse at

Ministers hope to use a Private Member's Bill in this session of Parliament to implement most of these proposals, however observers believe many of the more controversial plans are likely to face opposition and could be delayed before the European Championships in 2000.

IN BRIEF

Ex-constable jailed over £1m drugs A BRITISH policeman who was arrested on board a yacht

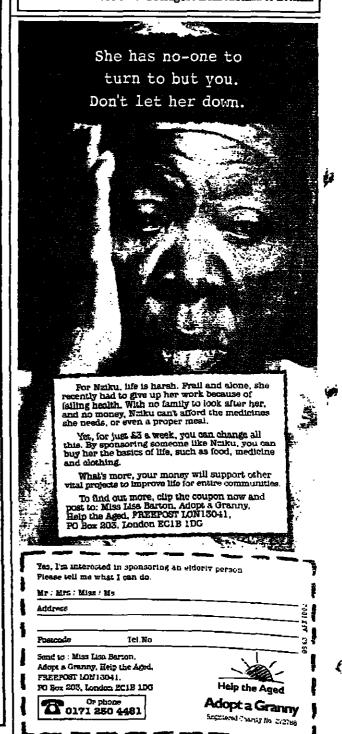
with drugs worth £1m has been jailed for seven years by a French court. John McAnenny, 47, a former constable in the West Midlands force, was sentenced in Boulogne on Wednesday night for attempting to smuggle 200kg of cannabis drugs into Britain last January.

GP facing trial found hanged

A GP accused of indecently patients was found hanged in his surgery days before he was due to go on trial, Essex police said yesterday. The body of Dr Ganesh Malvanker, 55, was found at his surgery in Tilbury, Essex, last Thursday.

Angel of Mostar leaves charity

SALLY BECKER, who was dubbed the Angel of Mostar after she rescued children from Bosnia, is leaving Operation Angel. the charity she founded. She said she had lost faith in herself after a failure to lead refugees from Albania to Britain.





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toal Drug boss guilty factor Guerin killing ONE OF the five "managers" of a Dublin-based international and was vesterday BY ALAN MURDOCH in Dublin Ward's elderly mother and his girlfriend, Vancessa Me in unexplained custody judges also referred to a I sensitive grand docu

Veronica Guerin in June 1996. Paul "Hippo" Ward, 34, who earned more than £150,000 a By Jana BENET pound revenues from lower colors had denied the charge but was found guilty of being an

there exceptional is but was found guilty of being an accessory to the murder. His continued policy and interpretational is between are to appeal.

The prosecution had earlier appeared on the point of collapse are such and levels in when Mr Justice Barr revealed to another more is that all three judges in the Special Criminal Court strongly different and policy point of court strongly different and policy points are policy poli hillow the counts to be ward had, after more silence the counts to be hours of maintaining silence a the first troublemaker, during interrogation, made "a that the fire days he can be sumed aftermath of the stunned after a stunned af

mould only have be In the stunned and many that they have Ms Guerin's killing, the public where honour out-Ms Guern's kning, and outin belief the side the Dail, an eloquent protest are silvely at government inaction against at government inaction against to the transfer a deteriorating crime situation. is 147 Purolt of Ministers were embarrassed morning of Libert into response: an emergency Dail session passed new laws to thre haved on the inc. seize assets from a rising genking in a guilty but as eration of drugs millionaires.

if should ring slamk. The presumed invulnerabilities chanting he are of the latter had been evident not just in conspicuous con-Fig. 1 while the prope sumption but in their weapons merce sumption bear assent power The state of the s From 1994-1996, there had been change, 14 unsolved Dublin murders in the appearing widely believed to be drugs-re-

lated contract killings. Mother of a young son, for-

and personally known to many senior politicians, Ms Guerin's special status had all too belatedly influenced events.

The eight-week trial was remarkable in three ways. Held in a no-jury court, the entire proceedings hinged on Charles Bowden, a former gang member turned state's witness, the subject of Ireland's first-ever witness-protection programme and now serving six years for drugs and arms offence

If emerged that Bowden had been given "unconditional and irrevocable" immunity from prosecution over Ms Guerin's murder. Defence lawyers were refused access to 40 informants' statements. With further proceedings pending, the court ruled that nationally known criminals cited in testimony cannot be named.

Ward is the only man so far to be tried for the murder. The prosecution maintained that he helped plan it, that he disposed of the gun and motorcycle used in the attack, but did not take part in the shooting itself. Ms Guerin died from bleed-

ing and shock after being shot in the chest, back, and arm as her car pulled up at traffic lights in west Dublin. An hour later, Bowden said, one of the killers reported: "It was a good job." In court, Ward, revealed how

around a Caribbean swimming pool during a wedding trip to St chological pressure". They sug-



Ward: Denies taking part in the murder itself

Lucia in March 1996, gang members ridiculed their leader amid laughter after Ms Guerin brought assault charges against him. Bowden confirmed that the same man had been "pissed off" by the reporter's inquiries.

Garda James Hanley told the court that after his arrest, Paul Ward said he had only been asked to "look after the motorbike and gun used in the shooting". He said that asked to make a full statement, Ward had replied "Are you mad?... Charge me with taking the gun and the bike for them, but I won't take the murder rap." Ward's defence rubbished the statements as

"contested verbals". Yesterday, the judges agreed, concluding that Ward's alleged admissions, "if they took place... were induced by grievous psy-

Ward's elderly mother and kept ly "missing" garda documents and cited evidence of a possible assault by a garda on Ward because of his silence. Ward, a heroin addict, had

admitted earning £300,000 from drugs between 1994 and 1996. The prosecution rested on the credibility of Bowden, a former Irish army marksman, whom de-

fence counsel Patrick MacEntee challenged forcefully. Bowden, 34, recalled being with Ward at a meeting of gang members which initiated Ms Guerin's killing, during a weekly gatherng to divide cannabis profits. He ealed his share sometimes reached £6,000 a week. When arrested he had £85,000 in cash stored with a friend.

Bowden revealed that the gang had numerous imported veapons hidden in a Dublin Jewish cemetery. He had loaded the Magnum revolver used in the murder. Other evidence included records showing many mobile telephone calls between Ward's and the alleged assassin's numbers on the day of the murder.

Judge Barr said that Bowden, one of five "managers" within the gang would lie regardless of the interest of others "if it was in his interests to do so".

Despite all this, the court ruled that Bowden's specific account of the killing was credible. Two alleged leaders of the drugs gang are facing court pro-



ceedings in Ireland and Britain. The reporter Veronica Guerin, who was shot in her car in Dublin in 1996

BBC to 'move' ageing listeners

By Paul McCann Media Correspondent

A DEMOGRAPHIC timebomb is forcing the BBC to push older listeners away from Radio 2 and towards Radios 3 and 4.

A leaked internal BBC report identifies a "demographic imbalance", which means the corporation's radio networks could see audiences collapse in the next 10 years because they rely too much on older listeners.

The 89-page strategy document says: "Our aim will be to move Radio 2's older listeners to Radio 3 for classical music and Radio 4 for speech.

The BBC feels it can move older listeners because "the BBC is so dominant in the listening of over-65s, it is likely that disenfranchised Radio 2 listeners will choose another RBC radio service rather than moving to commercial radio".

The BBC forecasts that its audience share will fall from its present 48 per cept of radio listeners to "between 33 per cent and 40 per cent by 2007" if younger listeners are not brought to Radio 2. This is because of "the BBC's reliance on older listeners who will die during the next 10 years".

Despite the revamp of Radio 1, the BBC is still struggling to attract younger audi ences. The report reveals that its share among those aged 15 to 34 has fallen below 20 per cent in London and other big cities.

The BBC has admitted that it has been trying to lower the age of listeners on Radio 2 for three years but has maintained this was not being done at the expense of older listeners. However, the strategy report reveals that the station's older image is still a "major barrier to entry" for the 35-plus listeners.

The dual strategy at Radio 2 of appealing to thirtysomething and sixtysomething audiences means different parts of the schedule appeal to very different audiences. The strategy recommendations can be seen in the current burst of advertising promoting the station's relatively younger draws such as Johnnie Walker and Des Lynam.

School inspector struck off over 'bullying'

the E- A SCHOOL inspector who was BY JUDITH JUDD accused of bullying teachers has been struck off by the

school standards watchdog. The Office for Standards in Education, which monitors inspections, said vesterday that Geoffrey Owen had been the ailed over £tm is subject of "a number of com-

about Mr Owen's conduct dur-

Education Editor

ing inspections from nine schools over the past three years. But this month it upheld complaint from Christ Church infant school in Down End. Bristol, where some teachers were so distressed they had to receive counselling.

primary school to expect a "Rolls-Royce of inspections" that would be "no consolation to those crushed beneath its

John Harries, another head, from Earley near Reading, was alleged to have been "emo-Ofsted had rejected protests by Mr. Owen's behaviour that tionally destroyed" by Mr. Association of Schoolmasters, Ofsted had investigated the bout Mr Owen's conduct durthey had to receive counselling. Owen's visit. He took early re-

telling the head of one London School, in Handsworth, Birm- anyone losing their job, but we ingham, complained that a have had so many complaints teacher was distressed by a confrontation with Mr Owen in something had not been done, front of pupils.

> peal against the decision. Nigel de Gruchy, the general secretary of the National

Mr Owen has the right to ap dence in the Ofsted inspection procedure," he said.

about this inspector that, if we would have lost all confi-

Chris Woodhead, the Chief Inspector of Schools, said that

He was also accused of tirement. Rookery Junior said: "We have sympathy for Mr Owen's inspection judge-lling the head of one London School, in Handsworth, Birm- anyone losing their job, but we ments to be secure and valid. Mr Owen, of Yeovil, said: "I "In coming to a judgement about Mr Owen's registration in am not surprised by Ofsted's the light of the Christ Church case, I have, nevertheless, had

to take into account his overall performance record," he said. He said it was unusual for a of the very "considerable way they do their jobs."

attracted".

decision as my position has been impossible for the last couple of years and clearly I have upset a lot of people. But there is no easy way to tell teachers deregistration to be publicised. and headteachers that there is It was being done "because room for improvement in the

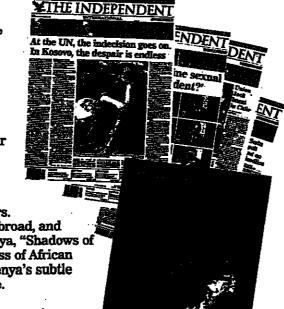
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Bellamy urges the church to go green

PROFESSOR David Bellamy is BY CLARE GARNER calling on the Church to establish an eleventh commandment: Thou shalt not pollute the

The respected television botanist is urging Christians to become the leading lights in the green movement, saying they should stop gazing at heaven and start saving the Earth if the planet is to survive the next mil-

In a speech to 200 delegates at an ecumenical conference in London today, Professor Bellamy will warn that Britons are losing touch with the "spirituality of creation" and replacing it with "the arrogance of selfimportance". Christians must "take up the cross of Soulship" and "set this country firmly on the road to a biodiverse, sus-

tainable future", he will say. The millennium provides the perfect opportunity to repent of our green sins, he believes. And the professor, who founded the Conservation Foundation, feels the time "could not be riper" for

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will outline his vision of an organic "year-round harvest festival" run by the Christian churches. Parishioners could cultivate organic produce in vicarage gardens and church buildings could be used as centres of distribution. "Dare I even go as far as saying supplying the village school and those on social benefit with good wholesome food?" he will ask. "Yes, I dare, for the power of Soulship is awesome indeed."

Professor Bellamy will also commend the 5,000 parishes that have signed up to plant special yew trees - "cuttings taken from trees that were alive here in Britain when Christ spent 40 days and 40 nights in the wilderness" - to mark the millennium.

The Rev Christopher Brice, director of the Social Policy and Community Development Agency of the diocese of London, organised today's London Churches Conference on



Professor David Bellamy in the country; he is urging Christians to take a bigger role in protecting the environment

Cathedral. "If the Church that during his time as Bishop doesn't do a lot of thinking and of Bath and Wells he was known work... there's a danger that activists, who at their most extreme could tend towards a form of green fascism or even paganism, will claim the platform," he said yesterday.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, counts the environment as one of his "abiding interests", so much so

as "the green bishop". Dr Carey has in the past criticised the Church's generally "patchy" and undistinguished" contribution to public debate on the

The Rev Oliver O'Donovan regius professor of moral and pastoral theology at Oxford University and canon of Christ

SAVE

Church, expects that churches will be sympathetic to some of Professor Bellamy's recommendations, but suspicious of others. "There will be suspicion of the rhetoric, the talk about 'Soulship' and 'spirituality', which is not very likely to clarify our relationships to nonhuman nature," he said

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Some parts of the Church of England said that the envitend to take the view that ronment had been on its agenhuman beings, made as they da for the past three decades. are "in God's image", should be Regarding the Church's responsibilities as a large farmland the first priority and that, since God moves in mysterious ways, owner, he said: "Stewardship of he will come up with an answer the environment is one part of

to the pollution. The Church needs to get to the point where it looks on environmental pollution as a

Worker jailed for theft of trains

By LINUS GREGORIADIS

RAILWAY worker known as the Fat Controller" who sccretly assembled his own lifesize train set, was jailed yesterday for the theft of four locomotives, 30 wagons and nine coaches.

While Barry Daly worked as depot supervisor at Crewe station in Cheshire, he had also stolen nearly £44,000 from two railway collectors, including Pete Waterman, the composer. Daly 43, who had pleaded guilty to five counts of stealing locomotives and railway stock, and two counts of theft from prospective customers, was sentenced at Chester Crown Court to 27 months in prison, half suspended.

Like the Fat Controller in the Thomas the Tank Engine stories, Daly's role at Crewe sidings had been to take charge of shunting operations. The Recorder of Chester, Quentin Querrelle, told him yesterday that he had abused a position of trust.

Earlier this month Mr Waterman spoke of his shock at having been conned by Daly who was a trusted volunteer at his heritage centre. He re-Fat Controller. All the kids loved him. He was a regular warden at the heritage centre and very good at his job. This was quite



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THE EASY ROUTE TO THE RIGHT MOBILE

Saxon gold discoverers PRE-PAY MOBILES lied to court, says jury NOW FROM ONLY A GOLD Anglo-Saxon sword pommel valued at up to £1.2m pommel could not have been was not found on an East York-

shire beach, as two treasurehunters claimed, a jury decided Instead, it was found 15

the Church's duty to offer min-

istry, worship and pastoral care

to all in this country, but not

everyone in the Church would

miles away on agricultural land belonging to Trinity House at Melton, near Hull, the inquest jury said. John Sutton and his son-in-law, Nigel Wilding, said they found the relic in a clay boulder on the foreshore near the village of Aldbroug

Mr Sutton told the Hull inquest Mr Wilding was using a toy metal detector, bought for his grandson, when he received the signal which led them to their discovery. But a fellow en-thusiast, Ernest Graves, who had been to Melton with Mr Sutton the day before, was suspicious. The day before the inquest was originally due to be held, he contacted the Hull and East Riding coroner, Geoffrey



vestigation. Mr Sutton and Mr Wilding stuck by their story. They were arrested on suspicion of attempting to obtain property by deception but no

charges were brought.

Malcolm Lillie, a geoarchaeologist from Hull University, said the chances of an object being found in one of the "armoured clay balls" at Aldbrough was "one in a million." He was 99.9 per cent certain the a reward for finding it.

found in the manner described by Mr Sutton and his son-in-law.
The inquest heard cartier

that Mr Graves, who said be had agreed to share the proceeds of any finds while out detecting with Mr Sutton, did not believe the toy detector could located the pommel in a clay boulder. "It would not pick up a dustbin lid." The jury delivered their vertict that the nommel, which met the criteria for being classed as treasure, was found by Mr Sutton at Melton on 12 November 1997.

Afterwards Mr Wilding said: "I came here telling the truth and I'll leave here telling the truth." As he stormed out of the building Mr Sutton said: "That's their opinion." The Treasure Valuation Committee will now value the pommel, while officials will be left to decide who, if anyone, will receive

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Worker A continent in discord as tax of train harmonisation agendas clash

JUST WHEN you thought it was safe ... Just when it seemed that Tony Blair's plan to put the issue of Europe to sleep was working, the Eurosceptics are back. This week, the Prime Minister's strategy of trying to make the euro seem both unthreatening and inevitable was ruined by the return of a frightening spectacle: the anti-European press in full cry and John Redwood on daytime television.

The sceptics are back, and this time it's personal - or personal taxes. They warn of a new European Union plot to impose tax increases from Norway to Crete and from the Shannon to the Oder. On Tuesday this week the Daily Mail's frontpage headline was "March of the Euro Tax Man". On Wednesday, The Sun asked (in English and German) of the new German Finance Minister, Oskar Lafontaine: "Is this the most dangerous man in Europe?" On Thursday, the Daily Telegraph took a darker tone, with a leading article entitled ferring pake of his se simply. "The German Menace." And all week the undead of

the Tory party have brought back vivid memories of the ended the was known; Major years, with Mr Redwood, Fig Controller All the Signature trade and industry spokesman, intoning "Europe is after our money."

So what is really going on? The fact is that harmonisation of European tax rates has long been an ambition of the architects of the single market.

The argument, which we heard again this week from Yves-Thibeault de Silguy, the European commissioner responsible for monetary union, is that big differences in tax rates could disrupt "the smooth operation of the single market". But, so far, all that has been achieved is a law which prevents VAT rates, once intro-Nuced, being cut below a certain level. Further harmonisation, of course, implies that taxes in Britain, which are relatively low, would have to rise toward the EU average.

The issue hit the headlines because Mr Lafontaine came to in a call that call on his opposite number in January. Gordon Brown last Thursday.

Businessmen EU costs will rise, warns Schröder unite to urge euro entry We want to harmonise axes, says Common EU army is Fischer's goal The Gauleiters of Europe Brown rejects common EU tax plan Oskar Lafontaine, the German Finance Minister, who has provoked outrage by insisting that his country will push for tax harmonisation within the European Union

They discussed the final draft of that harmonising taxes was a policy statement agreed by the finance ministers of the 11 EU countries with socialist or socialdemocratic governments.

Although the document, The New European Way, did not explicitly call for tax harmonisation, Mr Lafontaine and the French finance minister, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, did. Mr Brown immediately said "we will not hesitate" to use the British veto to stop any such proposals, only for Mr Lafontaine to insist that the German government would "push" for tax harmonisation during its presidency of the EU, which starts

It is worth noting, however,

also one of the "priorities" of the Austrian presidency, which is just drawing to a close - with no concrete results.

But there is a fundamental difference of view on the issue, which means that it will keep coming back, and pressure will continue to be put on the British to make concessions. Already it is clear that Mr Brown has upset his European partners by using the "veto" word, which he cannot do too often if he and Mr Blair want to present themselves as being at the constructive heart of debate.

European Commission has pro- sion has proposed on this is and experience.

ings, called a "withholding tax", which the British Government says it will not accept. The missioner responsible for the single market, Mario Monti, says he wants further harmonisation of VAT, but there are no firm proposals yet. And some European socialist parties, in a discussion paper not agreed by Gordon Brown, want a minimum rate of corporation tax in order to prevent "harmful tax competition". Mr Lafontaine does not like Germany being un-

posed a minimum tax on sav-

dercut by low taxes on business, especially in Britain and Ireland. So far, there are three prowhich attract new and inward investment. All the commisposals in development. The

Old-style socialists like Mr "code of conduct" under which member states agree not to use low taxes to poach new plants. American model, because in a

The Eurosceptics argue that Britain is bound to be sucked into a unified Euro-tax regime by a ratchet effect. But there is a strong argument against this in the form of the United States, which is a much more unified market than the EU, and yet within which states continue to be free to set their own taxes.

When people like Mr de Silguy talk about the need for tax harmonisation to ensure the "smooth operation of the single market", Gordon Brown's officials privately say this is con-tradicted by the American

Lafontaine do not like the divided already. free market the pressures of

competition keep business taxes low. Nor do the new-style Greens like it, because they and they are partners in Mr Lafontaine's government - want to shift the burden from income taxes to taxes on pollution, which is difficult to do in just one part of a single market.

But Mr Lafontaine's boss, Tony Blair's friend Gerhard Schröder, is wary of attempts to keep business taxes high. This contradiction between the reds, Greens and business-friendly Blairites has not been resolved in Germany, where the new

government looks hopelessly

The real situation, then, i

more complicated than a simple drive by high-taxing Continental socialists to use the EU to destroy the British way of low-tax life. But the Eurosceptics are right about one thing: the issue will not go away. It will arise most sharply in the drafting of the socialist parties' manifesto for next year's elections to the European Parliament. It will be a test of Mr Blair and Mr Brown's negotiating skills if they manage to avoid a New Labour "note of dissent" on policies for more uniform European taxes.

Oskar Lafontaine profile,

Caroline killer **'struck** in 1993'

By Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

THE KILLER of Caroline Dickinson, the 13-year-old who was murdered in France in July 1996, may have raped another girl three years earlier, it was disclosed yesterday.

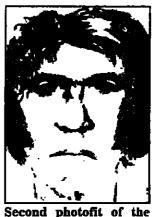
A second photofit was released yesterday of the suspected serial rapist.

Caroline was raped and smothered in a hostel bedroom in Pleine Fougères, Brittany, while on a trip with Launceston Community College, Cornwall.

The latest photofit released by French police is of a man with long dark hair, a flat nose and bushy eyebrows, it was based on descriptions given by a French teenager who was raped at knifepoint in Nancy, eastern France, in May 1993, three years before Caroline was killed.

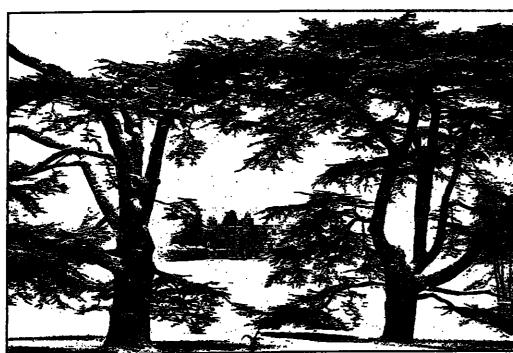
The victim contacted the police after seeing a phototit of a suspect released by French police in February this year, prepared from sightings near the hostel in the days before the Brittany murder. "The woman recognised the photokit categorically as that of her attacker," said Patrick Duchamp of Nancy police.

The original photofit, of an unshaven, bushy eyebrowed man with long, untidy hair. attracted more than 1,000 calls to the French police. A police spokesman in Nancy appealed for anyone who recognised the second photofit to get in touch with them,



Second photofit of the Review, page 5 | suspected serial rapist

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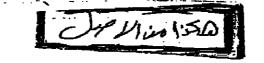
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CHANNEL 4 and The Guardian
may be commercial bediellows,
AND PAUL MCCANN but they will be barely on speaking terms after a programme tonight which accuses the newspaper of being too aggressive and moralistic

investigation into The Con- of newspaper articles whose nection, an award-winning Carlton documentary about the drugs trade which the newspaper claimed was a fake.

A Hard News special on Channel 4 this evening corroborates the newspaper's central allegations against The Con-nection, but questions the prominence The Guardian gave to the investigation, and the way in which it was conducted.

Hard News accuses The Guardian of adopting a "high moral tone ... as it set itself up as a watchdog of television". But, the programme continues, the paper "did not always live up to its own professed high standards".

Chief among The Guardion's alleged sins appears to have been an aggressive interviewing technique deployed strategy, commissioning ediby the reporters Michael Sean Gillard and Laurie Flynn on and head of marketing The Connection's producer, respectively. Marc de Beaufort

David Lloyd, head of news 4. said: "I set a lot of store by the restraint you show in investigations. In my personal opinion, it would have been better if more restraint had been shown in the coverage."

The attack has dismayed The

channel's film production arm,

Film on Four. "We cannnot see why of the programme." Channel 4 has cleared an hour At issue is The Guardian's of its schedule to be so critical central allegations proved to be true," said a Guardian spokeswoman. "By all accounts, this is a sloppy programme. We are severely troubled by the way it

think anyone has any right to

look at its methods. There has

been lots of concern from them

about the tone and the content

Sources at the company

responsible for *Hard News*,

Clark Productions, believe that

Guardian reporters were re-

sponsible for leaking black pro-

paganda about this evening's

special. A report in Private

Eye claimed that two produc-

ers had walked out on the pro-

no evidence of wrongdoing on

The Guardian's part. In fact the

two producers left because

they had other work commit-

came to be commissioned. "However, unease about one programme in the schedule will not affect our editorial or business relationship with

Apart from the commercial tie-up, the bonds between the newspaper and the network are close. Michael Jackson, the channel's chief executive. and Georgina Henry, The Guardian's deputy editor, are longstanding friends, while David Brook, Stevan Keane and Polly Cochrane have all left the newspaper recently to join Channel 4 as director of tor of night-time programmes

According to one Channel 4 source, Mr Jackson and Alan and current affairs at Channel Rusbridger, editor of The Guardian, exchanged "very aggressive and caustic correspondence" in the weeks lead-

ing up to tonight's broadcast. Another Channel 4 source said: "This has created a lot of tension. Despite setting them-Guardian, which sponsors the selves up as a high moral judge,



taking longer than expected. Anna Gatijal, 32, from Germany, sculpts out of chocolate at the International Festival of Chocolate in London yesterday

Armed bank robbers get 12 life terms

TWO MEN convicted of a series of armed bank robberies were sentenced to a total of 12 life

Harding, 59, who were found stole tens of thousands of pounds in a series of raids, Harrow Crown Court in north Lon-

in the leg and dozens of customers and bank staff left trau-Security camera showed mem-

paralysed by fear. The jury was also shown powas ended only when a second blice officer hit him with a cosh

they were sentenced. other security guard was shot,

"On every instance you pointed your loaded weapon at an innocent victim and on one occavictim ... you are a ruthless, heartiess and hardened professional criminal who presents

He told Harding, of Hatch End, Hertfordshire, that on each of the nine offences he was convicted of - two of armed robsessing a firearm with intent to possessing a stun-gun for a similar purpose, one of making use of a loaded firearm with intent to resist arrest and one of causing grievous bodily harm -he would be jailed for life. The judge added that he would have

Adams, of Barnet, north London, received three life sentences after being found guilty of armed robbery and two charges of possessing firearms with intent to commit robbery. He was told he would have to serve nine years before parole could be considered.

sentences yesterday. David Adams, 43, and William guilty of a list of charges from sion you deliberately shot the robbery to possessing firearms,

One security guard was shot matised by the masked raiders. bery, one attempt, three of posbers of the public and bank staff commit armed robbery, one of

lice film of Harding levelling his revolver at an armed officer who still had the presence of mind to shove a passer-by out of the line of fire. The stand-off, with gun muzzles inches apart. from behind. Neither of the men showed any emotion as

After hearing details of Harding's 39-year long criminal record, which included an armed bank raid in which an-

Judge Roger Sanders told him: a permanent threat to society."

to serve at least 15 years before being considered for parole.

MILLENNIUM BUG WATCH

BRITISH COMPANIES are quietly beginning to stockpile products, just in case things go badly wrong as more and more computers approach

the end of 1999. A biannual study by consultancy company Cap Gemini recently found that half of the companies contacted are starting to identify alternative business partners and a fifth are aiready actively planning to stockpile essential raw materials in advance

of the century's end. The only trouble with this cautious, purely precautionary and not-at-all-fearful approach, say economists, is that even if the Millennium Bug doesn't hit in any significant way, such stockpiling could trigger exactly the same damaging economic

effects as if it had. It works like this: if companies have built up stocks of raw materials against expected bad times, they will cause a mild economic boom



next year because they will be buying not just for now, but for the expected post-millennial bad times.

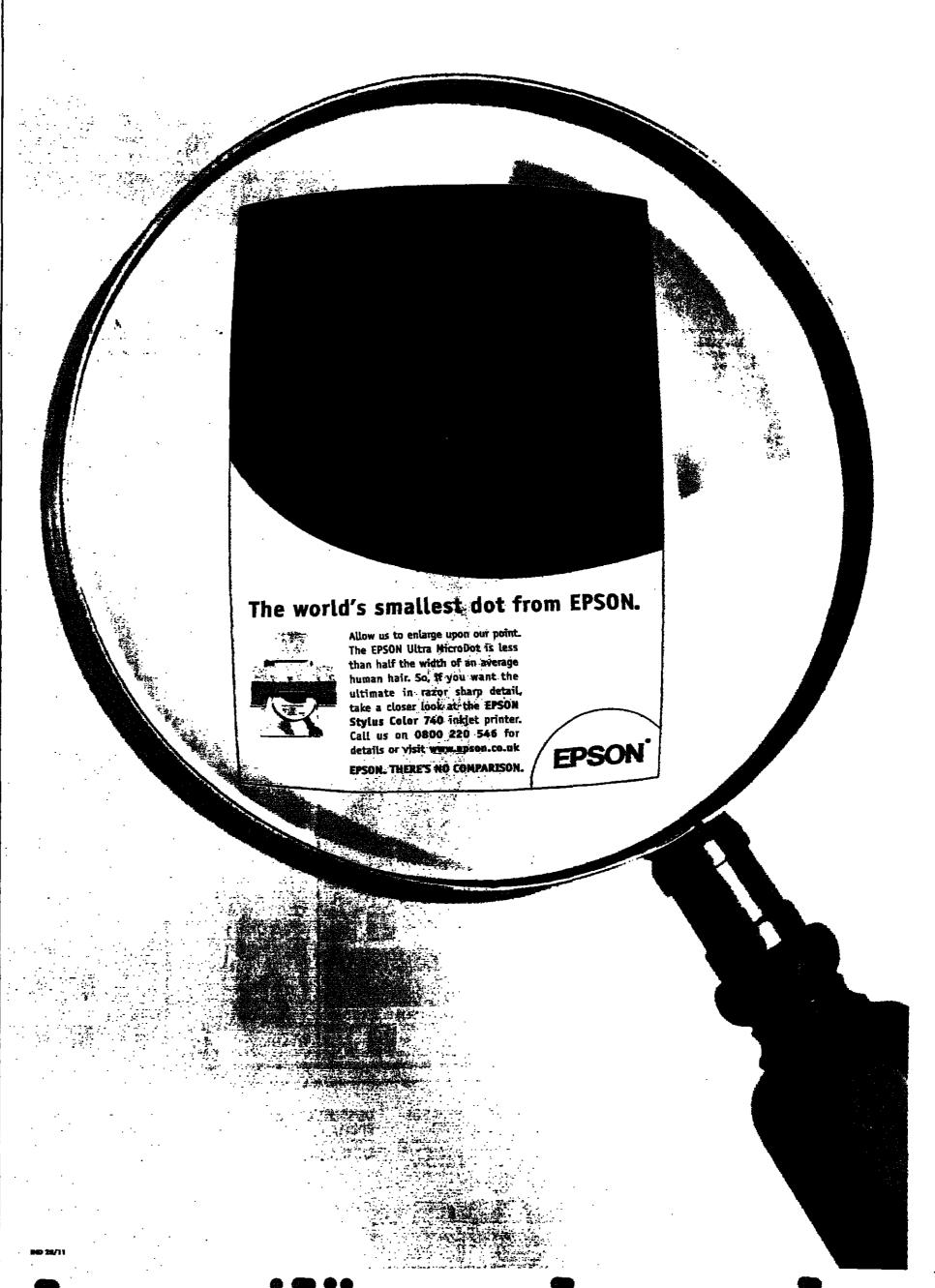
But come the year 2000, they won't need so much stock as in 1999, because they will have all of that sur-

plus left over The deflationary effect will hit sales and slow down economic growth.

Isn't that the same as having all sorts of computer crashes caused by flaky software? Yes it is.

It seems that the Millennium Bug is going to get us after all - either one way or

CHARLES ARTHUR



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THE INDEPENDENT

The Independent 28 November 1998

Peter Rees Roberts

THE ARTIST Peter Rees Roberts was more affected by the Mexican was known in particular for his artist Diego Rivera. His large paintmural works and for his career as a freelance national press artist in

He studied drawing and illustration at Wimbledon School of Art from 1939 to 1941. After being medically rejected for war service, be began to study mural painting under Professor Ernest Tristram at the Royal College of Art, which had transferred to Ambleside for the duration of the war. His paintings from the Ambleside years continued the tradition of earlier Royal College mural painting students such as Evelyn Dunbar and Cyril Mahoney.

Like Dunbar, Rees Roberts painted scenes of workers in rural industries, his 1942 tempera panels of The Bobbin Mill at Ambleside being his most ambitious and successful work at the RCA_Stanley Spencer was a strong mural painting influence at the time, but Rees Roberts said that he



ing of a gasworks, also from his time at Ambleside, is a stylised composi-tion of men and machinery that has echoes of films such as Metropolis or Charlie Chaplin's Modern Times.

While at Ambleside, Rees Roberts met Ursula McCannell, another Royal College student, Shortly before this, Ursula had made a stone head of a handsome man with strong aquiline features rather prophetically it could almost be a portrait of him. Rees Roberts in turn painted a tempera panel of Ursula in the style of Raphael, a particularly beautiful portrait that marked his feelings for her.

Ursula was the daughter of the painter Otway McCannell, and had been encouraged to paint by her father from an early age - she was the youngest exhibitor at the Royal Academy, in 1940. She had travelled to Spain with her father in 1936, and attracted much press attention when at the age of 15 she exhibited paintings inspired by the Spanish Civil War at the Redfern Gallery in 1938. Her father became principal of the Farnham School of Art in 1928, a post he held until the mid-1940s.

Rees Roberts left the Royal College in 1944, and he and Ursula married the following year. After a holiday at Mousehole in Cornwall, they settled in Farnham near Ursula's parents and Peter taught for a while alongside Otway at the Farnham School of Art.

After the war. Rees Roberts exhibited at several London galleries including the Modern Art Gallery, the Leger, the Redfern and the New English Art Club. He began to paint more in oils and his pictures, often



The right panel of The Bobbin Mill at Ambleside II (1942), tempera on board

of Cornish fishermen, became darker and more in tune with the neoromantic mood of the time. His 1945 self-portrait, The Painter in Mousehole, has a brooding intensity that is reminiscent of the heroic men in Ursula McCannell's early paintings of the Spanish Civil War.

The 1948 Picasso exhibition in London made a strong impact on Rees Roberts and his style moved closer to that of his contemporaries the Roberts, Colquboun and MacBryde. These Cubist-inspired, densely abstracted figurative paintings of the late 1940s gradually became simpler, with an increasingly brighter palette. This process was hastened by his visits to France with Ursula in the early 1950s.

Through the 1950s and early 1960s Rees Roberts exhibited at the Royal Academy and regularly with the London Group, despite the pressure of working as an advertising artist to make a living. He and Ursula had a young family, and he supported them by his work as a very successful illustrator for the national press, represented by the In-

ternation Artists' agency and by Thompson Artists. His numerous clients included Mariborough Cigarettes, Daks, KLM Airlines, the National Coal Board, Pringle Knitwear, Clark's Shoes, Allied Breweries and the Cunard Line. In the late 1940s and early 1950s he also worked as a fashion illustrator for the News

there regularly. In recent years they showed mainly in the gallery of Carlos Lozano, a friend and associate of Salvador Dali.

Rees Roberts developed a following among visitors to Cadaques for his wickedly humorous small paintings of characters and scenes observed in France and Spain; he en- ated nine large exterior wall sculp-

In 1964 he stopped working as an advertising artist and began to teach at Farnham School of Art again. He also taught at Brighton College of Art and continued to exhibit at the Royal Academy. He painted the first of what was to become a long series of mural commissions and also cre-

Norwegian Viking and Cunard lines. He completed murals for Williams & Glyn's Bank in the City, for Lloyds banks in Cambridge and Farnham. and for hospitals in Ealing and Guildford. He also exhibited at the New Ashgate Gallery in Farnham and the Century Gallery in Henley. Until earlier this year he taught art in adult education classes in Farnham.

Peter Rees Roberts had three sons: Tristan, a painter and architect: Marcus, a lecturer, painter and printmaker, and Lucien, a painter and designer. In 1989 the entire family exhibited together at the England & Co gallery in London. The exhibition, "Three Generations", included works by Ursula's father Otway, and was a tribute to the multiple talents of the McCannell/Rees Roberts dynasty.

JANE ENGLAND

Peter William Rees Roberts, artist: born Mitcham, Surrey 23 August 1923; married 1945 Ursula McCan-1980s he executed murals for several nell (three sons); died Ewshot,

Shortly before meeting Peter Rees Roberts, Ursula McCannell had made a stone head of a handsome man with strong aquiline features – rather prophetically it could almost be a portrait of him; they married a few years later

Chronicle and designed covers for Queen magazine.

In 1959 Peter and Ursula first visited Cadaques in Spain, and in 1963 bought a house there from the Spanish painter Juan José Tharrats. Cadaques was to become a second home, and from 1960 they exhibited

joyed the incongruous and quirky, and although he was modest about these pictures they proved very popular. His last series of paintings were provocatively anti-clerical, featuring Rubenesque naked women disporting themselves among blackclad priests and bishops.

tures for the Army Catering Corps Training Centre in Aldershot.

In 1970, the year after he stopped teaching at Brighton, he and Ursula bought a farmhouse at Baltimore in Ireland. During the 1970s and shipping companies including the Hampshire 22 October 1998.

Professor Niklas Luhmann

NIKLAS LUHMANN was one of the theory. This is remat cable when spected German sociologist, who (1986). one considers his ear' life.

Born in northern Jermany. in Luneburg, in 1927, he was the son of a brewery owner. His childhood and youth were spent in the schools of the Third Reich. At 15, in 1944, he Professors Schelsky and Dieter was called up to serve as an auxiliary manning anti-aircraft guns. For him, the end of the war meant several months as an American prisoner of war - a dispiriting experience as he was beaten up and his watch was stolen. He then embarked upon what looked like an orthodox middleclass career the study of law.

He chose to do this in the old university town of Freiburg im Breisgau, from 1946 to 1949, in what was then the French Zone. He returned to Luneburg in 1954 having entered the public service. A year later he joined the Lower Saxony Ministry of Culture, where he remained until 1962. During this period he was formulating his ideas.

An important breakthrough for him was his chance to take a sabbatical year, in 1960, at Harvard with Talcott Parsons. This experience led to the publication of his first book. Funktionen und Folgen formaler Organisation ("Functions and Consequences of Formal Organisation") in 1964 Between 1962 and 1965 Luhmann served as Research Fellow at the School of Administrative Sciences. Speyer, where he wrote Grundrechte als Institution ("Basic Rights as an Institution").

invited him to take over as departmental head at the Social Research Unit at Dortmund. In 1966 Luhmann was awarded his doctorate at the University of Munster by

Claessens, his books forming part of

the dissertation. At a time when German universities were facing student unrest and all structures and hierarchy were being called into question, Luhmann was appointed professor of sociology at the newly founded University of Bielefeld. More publications followed in rapid succession such as Funktion der Religion ("The Function of Religion", 1977), Trust and Power (in English, 1979), Politische Theorie im

The Differentation of Society (in In 1984 Luhmann published what is regarded as his main work, Soziale Systems ("Social Systems"). In this be summarised his theory that societies were living organ-

Wohlfahrtsstaat ("Political Theory

in the Welfare State". 1981) and

isms defined by the way people communicated within them. Luhmann had wide international contacts and his work was discussed in several languages. He was a visiting professor at a number of foreign universities including the New School of Social Research. New York, in 1975, and Northwestern University, Chicago. In the 1980s Reality is a rumour

His books brought him to the he became keenly aware of ecologfield of cybernetics and systems sky, then perhaps the most re- in Okologische Kommunikation

> In his final major work, Die Realität der Massenmedien ("The Reality of the Mass Media", 1996), he returned to a key theme. He was a ourselves at first hand. We become critic of the mass media in that he believed they had to attempt to gain mass media to inform us. Our nicand keep the attention of their audience. "This attention does not require truth but merely events or themes," that due to their value as sensation are able to gain attention. The mass media, as they become global, foster the decline of national broadcasting with a viewing public fixed geographically and politically, and this leads to the fragmentation of society.

For Luhmann reality is a rumour ("Die Wirklichkeit ist ein Gerücht").



labour we are less and less able to know reality through having seen it. more and more dependent on the ture of the world is made up increasingly of rumours that are presented to us by the mass media rather than from one person to another. This is true even though we are aware that the media do not deliver the unadulterated truth to us

in our homes. The same is true of advertising, which attempts to manipulate the viewer. The viewer is of course aware of this manipulation. But that alters nothing. More and more advertising is about "mobilising the attention" rather than selling a particular product. That is the reason why increasingly advertisements only reveal near the end who is advertising what,

Luhmann himself had a great need to communicate and he indulged himself in over 250 essays as well as 40 hooks

DAVID CHILDS

Niklas Luhmann, born Lüneburg, Germany 8 December 1927; Professor of Sociology, University of Bielefeld 1968-98; married 1960 Ursula von Walter (died 1971; two sons, one daughter); died Oerlinghausen. Germany 11 November 1998.

Liliana Brisby

Most of what we believe we know is | LILIANA BRISBY combined a deep most influential academics in the attention of Professor Helmut Schel-ical problems, which is reflected that which we have been told by the respect and affection for the tradimedia. It is based on trust in au- tions and standards of her adopted thorities, witnesses and experts. In | country, England, with the dedicaa world of the growing division of | tion and drive of the best of the cold warriors cut off from lost homes behind the Iron Curtain.

> She was born Liliana Daneva in Sofia, Bulgaria in 1923, into an eminent family closely involved with the history of Bulgaria following its emergence from Ottoman rule towards the end of the 19th century. She was the great-granddaughter

of the first Prime Minister of Bulgaria following the Congress of Berlin in 1878 and her maternal grandfather, a noted benefactor in Bulgaria, was part of the threeman delegation which toured Europe in 1886 to find a king acceptable to the great powers, successfully choosing Ferdinand of Saxe Coburg-Gotha who ruled for 31 years.

Her paternal grandfather held the posts of Prime Minister and Foreign Minister before the First World War, her father was a diplomat and her mother a renowned concert pianist and beauty. Liliana inherited a strong sense of purpose and duty from her family, charmingly tempered by good looks and an earthy sense of humour.

She completed her studies at Lau-World War, publishing a work of his-tory on Russo-Bulgarian relations in 1945. In Lausanne she met her English husband. Michael Brisby, a civil England in 1946. After a short period as a concert pianist, she began her



An earthy sense of humour

career as an Eastern Europe specialist when she joined the BBC World Service broadcasting to the

Communist bloc during the 1950s. From the World Service, she joined the Foreign Office's Information Research Department (IRD) where she worked until joining the Royal Institute of International Affairs in 1971. Here she edited its monthly journal, The World Today, from 1975 until her retirement in 1983.

As a specialist on Bulgaria, she contributed sections on the country sanne University during the Second to the Annual Register of World Events in the 1970s and in 1983 published The Truth That Killed, which was her translation of the edited broadcasts of the Bulgarian dissiengineer, marrying and moving to dent author Georgi Markov, murdered in London with a poisoned umbrella in 1978. Markov's broad-

casts on Radio Free Europe exposing the comic absurdity and corruption of the dictatorship of Todor Zhivkov are widely assumed to have led to his assassination. In her books, articles and occa-

sional book reviews for The Spectator. Brisby always displayed accuracy, moral principal and a fine command of language. Despite her good looks and very feminine character she was not easily flattered and shocked the late Robert Maxwell by manfully resisting the campaign of phone calls and roses with which he sought, unsuccessfully, to persuade her to write the hagiography of Todor Zhivkov for a book he was publishing profiling Eastern European leaders.

After the collapse of Communism. Liliana Brisby was thrilled to return to her native Bulgaria for the first time since leaving before the Second World War, entertaining both old friends and new contacts with her energy and burnour. She never wallowed in the sentimentality of the returning emigré and she delighted local journalists in the Balkan moun tain town of Troyan when they asked her what single thing had made the most vivid impression on her in Bulgaria after an absence of 50 years. She replied that it was undoubtedly the medieval state of the lavatories.

ALEXANDRA MCBURNEY

Rada Liliana Daneva, writer and broadcaster: born Sofia 2 February 1923: married 1946 Michael Brisby (died 1965; two sons, one daughter): died London 30 October 1998.

St John Terrell

ST JOHN Terrell was a master showman who, every Christmas Day for 25 years, donned a tricorn and cape to re-enact George Washington's famous 1776 crossing of the Delaware river, and who made it his business to clear Richard III's blackened name.

Over the course of his career Terrell left his mark on American culture, establishing a playhouse in New Hope, Pennsylvania, in 1939 and, in 1949, a music circus in Lambertville. New Jersey, a summer theatre-in-the-round under a surped tent that became a model for similar summertime festivities across the United States and which continued to operate until 1970.

It was to attract attention to his music circus that Terrell conceived his Delaware crossing stunt in 1950.

It proved so popular and effective fact that Washington actually stood that he sustained the routine for 25 at the prow of the canoe, as Terrell years, long after the circus had did in his re-enactment. However he closed. In 1978, he passed the role was well versed in the creation of to a longtime crewman, Jack Kelly fantasy, Aged 16, he ran away to join (Grace Kelly's brother), and it even- the circus where he performed a

He campaigned to discredit Shakespeare's portrayal of Richard III as a hunchbacked murderous villain

that a historical society, the Washington Crossing Foundation, has

continued it. It is more likely to be myth than show of the 1930s.

tually became such a tradition fire-eating routine, and soon afterwards became the first voice for the hero of Jack Armstrong, the All-American Boy, a popular radio

His taste for a flamboyant lifestyle caused him to abandon studying for a degree at Columbia University in order to pursue a career in the theatre and he became a familiar figure in off-Broadway productions.

But it was his campaign to discredit Shakespeare's portrayal of Richard III as a hunchbacked murderous villain that gained him gesture this time moving the feast greater fame. Shakespeare names to a famous Manhattan delicatessen. Sir James Tyrrell, acting on the or-Sardi's, for a medieval lunch feaders of the King, as the murderer of turing wooden spoons, pewter dishthe young princes in the Tower of London. Tyrrell was one of Ter- ale and mead. rell's ancestors, and so, taking the matter personally, he undertook a

1983, on the 500th anniversary of Richard's accession, he arranged for a memorial Mass to be held in the king's honour at St Patrick's Cathedral in Manhattan. Afterwards, he held a medieval lunch at a gentlemen's club.

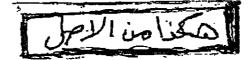
Two years later, on the 500th anniversary of Richard's death on Bosworth Field, Terrell repeated the es and a menu of quail, suckting pig,

EDWARD HELMORE

campaign to clear the king's name. St John Terrell, actor: born Chica-Whatever the truth, Terrell used go, Illinois 1917; twice married his expertise as a carnival showman (one son, two daughters); died



to attract attention to the case. In Trenton, New York 9 October 1998. Terrell chats with a fan at his 'music circus', 1952



Anti-Saddam campaign gets \$3m from US

THE UNITED STATES has given By Colin Brown \$3m to an international campaign to bring to justice the Iraqi dictator, President Saddam

Ann Clwyd, the Labour MP who has led the campaign at Westminster for President Saddam to be tried for crimes against humanity along the lines of the charges laid by the Spanish authorities against the former Chilean dictator General Augusto Pinochet, spent three days at the US State Department before securing the cash. 'It has not been paid yet, but we know it is coming," said one source. "It has been voted through by Congress." The donation will be announced

The State Department is funding the London headquarters of the campaign, called Indict, and Ms Clwyd, its chairman, plans to use the money to open offices in France and Moscow. She is not receiving any of the cash herself.

Ms Clwyd said: "We are the movers and shakers on this initiative. Indict is dedicated to bring Saddam and his regime

Chief Political Correspondent

want to get it all together and bring it before a war crimes

The funding will underline the official backing for the campaign, which Ms Clwyd launched at the Commons in June last year, with the support of the Prime Minister, Tony Blair, and the former Conserv ative premiers John Major and Baroness Thatcher

The Foreign Office has confirmed it supports the aims of Indict, to bring President Saddam to justice, and is backing moves in the UN Security Council to establish an ad-hoc war crimes tribunal to try him and his key ministers for offences against humanity.

Supporters of Indict believ the decision by the law lords to deny immunity to General Pinochet, as a former head of state in Chile, will help to reinforce the case for action in the UN against President Saddam.

target his brother, Barzan Tikriti, who is said to be living in Switzerland, where he no longer has diplomatic immunity.

Saddam Hussein and his regime to justice for crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide. It has received cross-party support in this country and the US," said the group.

Members of the Iraqi opposition parties, who last week met the Foreign Office minister Derek Fatchett, will attend an Indict meeting at the Commons next Tuesday.

Mr Fatchett said the oppos tion parties should back indict. "They should be united behind the Indict campaign, which will have a tremendous effect in Europe. There is no doubt that Saddam Hussein has used chemical weapons," he said. ■ Indict has a website at



Miranda Raison, 21, an acting student, performs for an audience including the ministers Baroness Blackstone and Chris Smith and actor Tony Robinson at yesterday's announcement of drama and dance scholarships Nicola Kurtz

£17m for dance and drama students

By Judith Judd **Education Editor**

DANCE AND drama students will be able to audition for national scholarships from a fund worth £17m, the Government announced yesterday.

At present funding for dance and drama students at institutions such as the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and the Northern Ballet School is little more than a lottery. Students have to apply to their local education authority for discretionary grants and a third of authorities give no funds at all,

There will be 820 scholarships in the first year, rising to 2,460 by 2001, to help students with fees and living costs.

Students who win one of the new scholarships, which will be available from next September, will not be required to contribute more than £1,000 towards the costs of their fees. The previous average contri-

THE RIGHTS OF EVERY MAN

'The Independent' is publishing daily each of the 30 Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, illustrated by Ralph Steadman, to mark its 50th anniversary

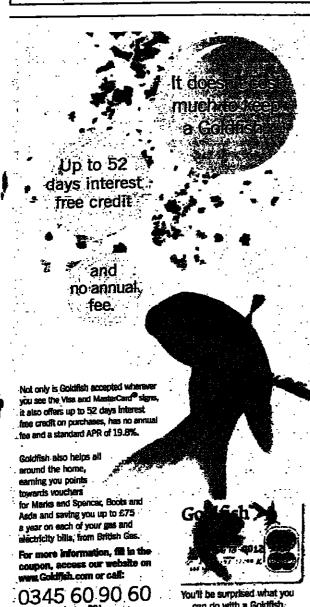


Article 18

Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

A pamphlet edition of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is published by Waterstone's, price £1. Proceeds to the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture.

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Club caught in football's murky world

BY STEVE BOGGAN

AN ENGLISH football agent who tried to inflate a £75,000 transfer fee by £125,000 is to be investigated by the Football Association. The involvement of the FA comes after The Independent revealed how Tom Lawrence attempted to treble the price of the Swedish striker Mathias Svensson and divert the difference to his solicitor in

The FA said yesterday it was examining the deal and would call in Fifa, the world football governing body, if it found any breaches of international transfer rules. As a registered Fifa agent, Mr Lawrence could forfeit a bond of £100,000 if any wrongdoing were uncovered. "Article 13 of the Fifa statutes governing transfers states that there has to be a written contract stating that the agent is representing someone - we will start there and proceed from that," said Steve Double, an FA spokesman. It is thought the association will then contact Elfsborg, the Swedish club that arrived. His purchase of sold Svensson in December 1996, and Portsmouth FC, the

club that bought him. The investigation comes at the end of a two-week period in which the murky world of international transfers has come under unprecedented scrutiny. It began with an Independent investigation into the purchase of two Chinese players by Crys-during the summer, shortly tablished that officials at the tal Palace - and the fact that after Terry Venables, the for- Chinese FA and at the players'



Terry Venables: Former England coach. Manager at Crystal Palace when Fan Zhivi and Sun Jihai arrived. Controlled Portsmouth when Mathias Svensson Australian players is being investigated.

tween the amount Palace was

receive. Fan Zhiyi and Sun

Jihai were bought by Palace



Fan Zhiyi: Defender, 29, and Chinese national captain. Arrived with Sun Jihai from China for total £1.35m - although Chinese believed fee was only \$1.5m (£950.000). Understood Chinese are now to receive the full price.

as manager. The English club

ments. However, inquiries by

The Independent in China es-

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Mathias Svensson: Swedish international striker. 24. His club, FC Elfsborg, wanted £75,000 for him and was told by Tom Lawrence to expect £200.000 from Portsmouth and to forward £125,000 to Lawrence's London solicitor.

clubs, Shanghai Shenhua and Dalian Wanda, were expecting

to receive the equivalent of

Palace chairman, was baffled

vestigation. Liu Shijun, the Chi-

and initiated an internal in-

Mark Goldberg, the Crystal

only £950,000.

WHO'S WHO IN THE ROW OVER TRANSFER FEES

David Amsalem: Left back, 27, Israeli national captain. Crystal Palace believed it had paid the first of three instalments of £266,666 to Maccabi Nevealon but the Israeli club received nothing. Rumoured to be "owned" by syndicate.

nese FA's representative in

London, refused to discuss the

deal other than to say that Mr

Lawrence and his company,

Mr Lawrence, a close friend

Strata Sports Marketing, were

of Mr Venables, denied being in-

agents at the English end.



Mark Goldberg: Millionaire businessman. Bought Crystal Palace this summer for £23m before bringing in Terry Venables on reported salary of £750,000. Has ordered full audit of all recent transfers - especially Am-

volved or receiving any fees re-

lating to the deal. Subsequent-

ly, when Mr Goldberg told The

Independent that Mr Lawrence

had been paid £25,000 for "in-

troductions and help with work



Liu Shijun: Managing director of Greatgate Overseas Development, official Chinese FA agent in Europe. Aged 44, law graduate. Acted in transfer of Chinese players but will not discuss transfer fees, which he says are "secret".

The matter was resolved

when Palace said they had re-

ceived confirmation that the

Chinese were "happy" with the

deal. In fact, they were very

happy, because they had been

contacted directly by the club

and promised the full £1.35m

due to them. But that was not

the end of Mr Goldberg's worries. Within days, as journalists pored over other Crystal Palace

deals, it emerged that £266,666,

representing the first instal-

ment of an £800,000 fee for

David Amsalem, the Israeli

captain, appeared to have gone

Earlier, while announcing an audit of all transfers at the

club, Mr Goldberg said the

sum had been paid to Maccabi

Nevealon in Israel - but the club

said they had not received a

penny. The FA is continuing to

to examine the deal amid rumours that the player was

"owned" by a syndicate of

Although Mr Venables says

he plays no financial role in

transfers at Crystal Palace.

The Independent revealed that

fraud squad detectives had

been asked to investigate alle-

gations of "bad business practice" during a period from 1996

to 1997, when he controlled

Portsmouth FC.



Ted Buxton: Assistant manager to Venables at Crystal Palace, former Chinese national coach and scout at Portsmouth. Recommended both Chinese players and Svensson to Venables. Lawrence acted for the players.

Among the matters being in-

vestigated are the transfers of

four Australian players. Mr

Venables consistently denies

night for football concluded

with the revelations over Mr

Lawrence's attempt to cream

off £125,000 from the Svensson

that Mr Lawrence had asked

Portsmouth FC to send

£200,000 to the Elfsborg in De-

cember 1996, while Portsmouth

chairman of the Swedish club, and Kjell Hallen, deputy chair-

man, directly contacted

Portsmouth over a delay in

payment and told astonished

chib officials that they had been

asked to redirect £125,000 of the

Mr Carter said his client

But it was the last straw for

the FA, which announced that

it was preparing proposals that would involve it acting as a

clearing house for deals, where

fee to Mr Lawrence's solicitor,

was simply attempting "to de-

rive as much from the trans-

action as possible".

be lodged.

Delia Smith helps

egg farmer win case

Stephen Carter, in London.

was controlled by Mr Venables.

However, Ake Larsson,

Correspondence obtained by The Independent showed

Finally, an ignominious fort

any wrongdoing.

Advent

there was a £400,000 gap be- mer England coach, took over

paying and the amount the said they were paying £1.35m

Chinese authorities expected to for the players in four instal-

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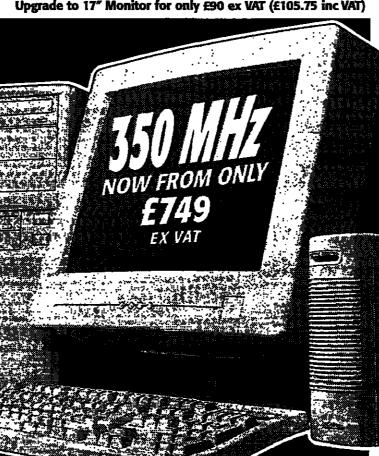
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After unscrambling the

the television cook Delia Martin Pitt was accused by the Ministry of Agriculture of breaking EU rules by labelling eggs laid on his farm near

Marlborough, Wiltshire, with the period they were laid instead of their use-by dates. But armed with a copy of Delia Smith's How to Cook, he managed to persuade magistrates he was not guilty.

ape paid tribute yesterday to

AN EGG farmer who won a complex rules surrounding court battle over Brussels red the case, magistrates dismissed the charges. Mr Pitt said: "When you lis-

ten to Delia Smith or read her books she stresses that it's not the sell-by date that's important. She says that eggs have to be a certain age for certain uses, for example an egg which is to be soft boiled needs to be five days old.

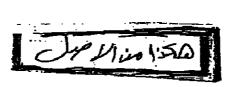
"How can shoppers know how old their eggs are unless the period in which they are laid is put on the box - and that is what I have been doing."

Notice to Halifax borrowers

The variable base rate for Halifax plc mortgage accounts (but not secured personal loan accounts) will be decreased by 0.5% pa to 8.20% p.a.

The new interest rate will take effect from 1st December 1998 for existing borrowers. The monthly payment will be amended from April 1999 for mortgage accounts on Budget Plan and from the next review date for mortgage accounts on Annual Review.





force grael breti



ME INDEPENDENT,

Ted Buston Assister minuscri to benables a Crystal Paner former Q these without couch sed South of Portsmouth Re-Contribution to both Chines Placers and Svensson to b dicies. Lawrence acted is the players.

Among the mattership form Anstrukan players Vertables consistently & any wrongdoms.

Fright at anomaliant path for football conds with the revelations ora; Lawrence's attempt to be off the top from the Stee i or respendence obe

he the indication de their Mr. Lawrence had & Parly weath FC to g all of the Elisborge! er grifam tiga, while Porter war and reflective Mr Berg. an fen Ballen deputie Not the first attended being

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umber of Israelis killed in the eccupation zone (22 soldiers and a construction engineer Netanyahu: Facing calls to abandon Lebanon war heping to build an artillery base) so far this year. In all, 200 SLA commander, has asked Israelis have been killed inside Lebanon since 1985. A total of

105 Israeli air raids on Lebanon in the past 11 months have failed to protect them. in Israel, there is an overwhelming desire to abandon so. the Lebanese war, although

some ministers, such as the public security minister, Avigdor Kahalani, would prefer to punish Lebanon for Hizbollah attacks. Yesterday he suggested bombing Lebanon's infrastructure - including electricity grids - because the Lebanese army will not disarm the Hizbollah. But international law allows the occupied to fight the occu-

piers and UN Security Council Resolution 425 of 1978 demands the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon.

Israel still wants to withdraw with conditions, including Israel is given no concessions the amalgamation of its own rag-tag "South Lebanon Army" militia into the Lebanese

ENJAMIN NETANYAHU, the BY ROBERT FISK Iraeli Prime Minister broke off in Beirut

Killings

Israelis

to return

force

hs European tour and returned ti Jerusalem for an emergency

Obinet meeting last night to

free the impossible task of withdawing his army from

Lebanon The deaths of two

nore Israeli occupation sol-

enfounded his government's

rason Mr Netanyahu broke off

The truth is that the pro-

lanian Hizbollah – whose

hairman, Sayed Hassan Nasrellah, is in Tehran this week-

Rebanon and the pro-American

lilled on Thursday night when

and-mines blew up three tanks.

The deaths bring to 23 the

Israeli army wants to leave. The two Israeli soldiers were

national army, something that Lebanon's new president-the eral Emile Lahoud - refuses to do. Indeed, it was President Lahoud who stated at his inauguders on Thursday - seven have ration, on Tuesday that peace ben killed in two weeks - only requires "whatever the circumstances or considerations, the indivisibility of negotiating For in most wars, occupation tracks with Syria's, on the basis amies want to stay; and the of a total and equal Israeli withocupied - or their supporters drawal from the south and westwant them to leave. In ern Bekaa and the Golan in Iebanon, the opposite is the accordance with UN security

Members of Germany's Kurdish community rallying in support of Abdullah Ocalan, the Kurdish fugitive seeking asylum in Italy

use. This, in a nutshell, is the council resolutions". And herein lies the rub. Syria supports the Hizbollah. For as long as Israel bleeds in southern Lebanon, Syrian pressure for an Israeli withdrawal from Golan can continue. If Islave won their war in southern rael withdraws unilaterally from Lebanon, it can stay in Golan without paying the price of occupation. Hence the refusal of Lebanon - which "hosts"

22,000 Syrian troops on its soil – to let the Israelis off the hook. In Israel, public opinion is coming round to the idea that it must pull out of Lebanon. Yesterday's edition of the Israeli daily Mooriv indicated that 40 per cent of Israelis support a unilateral withdrawal, compared with just 16 per cent in February of last year. The mothers of Israeli soldiers serving in the occupation army in Lebanon have pleaded for their sons to come home. Yediot Aharanot has demanded that Mr Netanyahu "take an initia-

tive" and withdraw. Even General Ariei Sharon, the Israeli Foreign Minister held indirectly responsible in Israel for the Sabra and Chatila massacre of up to 2,000 Palestinian civilians in 1982 -

now talks of withdrawal. General Antoine Lahd, the President Lahoud of Lebanon to implement UN security council resolution 425.

Perhaps the Israelis will try to retreat in stages - though they will be attacked as they do

The real question is why the Israelis stay in southern Lebanon at all Although they call their occupation area their "security zone", it is the least secure piece of real estate in the Middle East. In April 1996, the Hizbollah fired more rockets across the border in three weeks than had been sent into Israel since 1948. The Lebanese suspect the Israelis are staying to obtain access to Lebanese water as part of an overall peace agreement.

In any event, the Syrians will not want to see a unilateral withdrawal and will insist that - or allowed to demand conditions – on its departure.

Poles seek extradition of British woman

A POLISH military court is set BY ADAM LEBOR to issue an arrest warrant for a British pensioner on charges of illegally ordering the imprisonment of a wartime resistance hero who was later executed in Stalinist Poland.

Once the warrant is issued, the Polish authorities will apply to the Home Office for the extradition of Helena Wolinska. Like the former Chilean dictator General Pinochet, she is being called to account for alleged crimes that took place

Polish-born Ms Wolinska, 79, is the wife of Włodzimierz Brus, an Oxford professor who is a fellow of Wolfson College. But in the 1950s she was a

military prosecutor in Warsaw,

when Poland, like much of postwar eastern Europe, was in the iron grip of a Stalinist regime. She is accused of illegally or-dering the arrest of General August Emil Fieldori, after the pro-Soviet secret police accused him of organising the execution of Polish Communist fighters against the Nazis.

Central Europe Correspondent

During the war, Fieldorf, whose wartime alias was Niel. was a high-ranking commander of the Polish Home Army (AK), the main national resistance organisation and rival to the nmunist-dominated Peo-

ple's Army Charged with attempting to overthrow the Polish Communist state, he was arrested in and sentenced to death in April 1952 after a one-day trial held

secretly, and hanged in 1953. In 1989, after the collapse of the Communist regime in Poland, General Fieldorf was

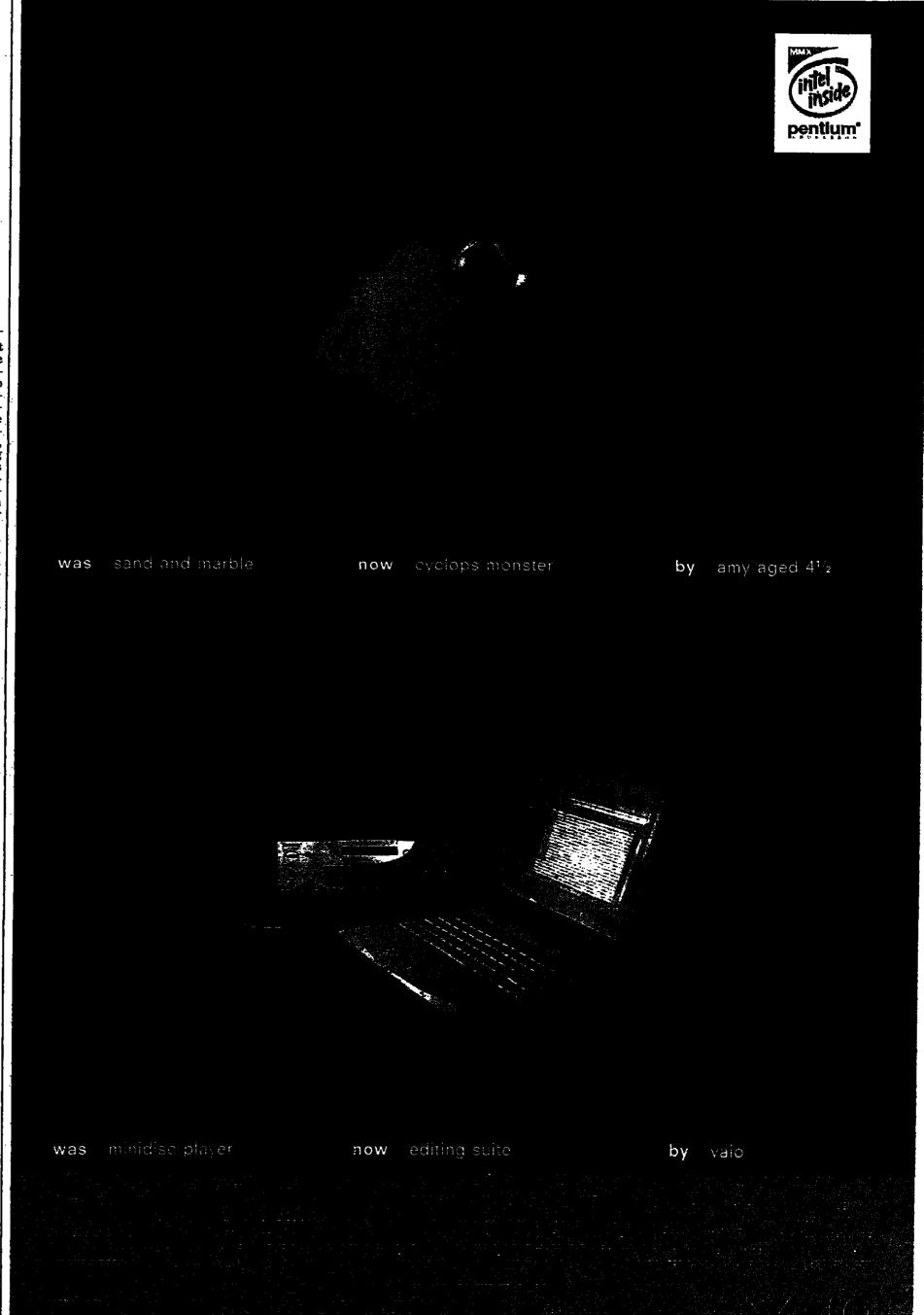
rehabilitated This week the Polish Justice Minister, Hanna Suchocka, gave the go-ahead for the Warsaw Military Court to consider Ms Wolinska's case in the next few days. Polish sources say that the British government has indicated that it will not put up obstacles in principle to the extradition to Poland of a

Ms Wolinska's background is Jewish, and the prospect of an aged Polish Jewess, one of only tiny minority to survive the Holocaust, being extradited to the country that is the site of Auschwitz and Birkenau is likely to trigger a storm of protest from Jewish organisations.

Like many of her coreligionists, Helena Wolinska believed that Communism and the Soviet Union was the best bulwark against resurgent

There was little love lost between the Jewish Communists, many of whom had returned to Warsaw. Prague and Budapest after the war after exile in Moscow, and former officers in national resistance groupings such as the AK.

But ironically, it was Ms Wolinska's one-time allies in the Polish Communist Party who organised the 1968 anti-Jewish campaign that finally drove her from her homeland to Britain. from where she now faces likely extradition proceedings back





US shops dream of a hot Christmas



the day after Thanksgiving began before dawn. They se their alarms, skipped muffins and pancakes for breakfast piled into their cars and headed for the mails armed with dollars, plastic and the sheaves of coupons diligently cut from newspapers. It's five in the morning on "Black Friday"

"Black" has nothing to do with the misery that some of us emerged as the must-havemay associate with shopping. This is the day that traditionally kicks off this country's Christmas gift-buying season when bro, it is a fluffy robot that goes retailers expect their account by the name of Furby. books magically to change colour from red to black in just a few hours. And this year, their hopes are as high as they could possibly be. Americans, we are told, are ready to spend, spend, spend.

While retailers in the high streets of Britain are bracing themselves for what some predict will be the worst Christmas eason in decades, the outlook in the US is entirely to the contrary. A remarkable confluence of cheery economic factors rock-bottom inflation and unemployment, minimal interest rates and a once-more zooming stock market - has everybody in the mood to splash out.

"It doesn't get much better than this," confirmed Carl Steidtmann, chief retail economist for PricewaterhouseCoopers in New York. "We have a very mbust consumer environment. with good employment growth

and income growth. It should be a good Christmas."

What is hot on the shelves on

THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE

jeans and humidors for the guys (the cigar fad shows no sign of fading) and soft fabrics for the ladies, especially anything in chenille and velvet. And as usual a single toy has but-nowhere to be-found item for parents desperate to please their offspring. Made by Has-

Only a few weeks have passed since retailers in the US tween. were as fretful as they are in Britain now. Then there was anxiety that various factors were combining to chill the US economy - trouble in Russia and the Far East, a slumping Wall Street and even what seemed then to be the steamtrain momentum of the Clinton impeachment scandal. All those worries seem, suddenly, to have evaporated.

Only a spoilsport might pause to note those things that could yet cause concern. As the latest indicators of consumer confidence have started once more to climb after three months of decline, other surveys highlight a rude fact that few seem ready to acknowledge: Americans, never much good at putting aside money in savings, are spending more on their lifestyle than they actual-

It was Furby Fever that prompted some malls to open esterday not at the traditional hour of 7am - early enough, you would think - but at 6am or earlier. At one mall in Cambridge, just outside Boston, Massachusetts, a line of 80 people had formed before its doors opened at 6am. By 6.05am, the main toyshop inside, K-B Toys, was sold out of its entire stock of 100 Furby

"I've been here all night for this foolishness," admitted Bill Zamparelli, a father-of-three who managed to snap up two of the creatures, which come in a variety of colour schemes and have alleged interactive

They close their eyes in the dark when it is time to sleep and and to their owners in English. This is an experience that I do not choose to go through again," he added.

As well as the usual enticeally were not seen until after minus 0.2 per cent in October Christmas, American malls go the extra mile to make the shopping experience survivable. In affluent suburbs, visitors can expect valet parking, lockers for the purchases they

don't want to lug around ard free push chairs for their kils. The raging economy - he

Dow Jones index on Wall Street was back in record territory this week - is presenting the retal this side of the water? Dark industry with one problem: cannot find the people to man the tills. The shortage is bail news for shoppers too, who may find long queues at checkouts and nobody around to a sist them in their search or

With national unemploment now running at a mere .6 per cent, those willing to take seven dollars an hour for a seasonal job in Macy's or Blobmingdales are few and far be-

Some of the pressure may be eased by the ascendancy of shopping by catalogues and over the Internet. Recent surveys show that nearly half of all Americans with access to the Internet with PCs at home will do some of their Christmas

LET THE CASH TILLS RING

■ American shoppers who admit they have no pre-set budget for their Christmas shopping: 68

per cent How much the average American is expected to spend on Christmas gifts this year: \$1,000 (£625) (Last year: \$800) How much all US consumers are expected

to spend between Thanskgiving and Christmas: \$3.5bn a day. ■ Rise in US consumer

confidence in November: 5.6 per cent ■ Extent of Dow Jones

index rebound since 31 August: plus 1,755 points.

■ Record Dow Jones high: 9,374 on Monday. ■ Numbers of individual Americans who filed for bankruptcy last year: 1.4 million (up 300 per cent since 1980)

\$2.3bn (£1.4bn) may be spent on gifts online this season, more than double what was spent by cyber means last year.

Concerns about the kind of hangover that may follow this speak to each other, in Furbish, season's spending spree were highlighted by new savings rate figures published by the US Commerce Department this week. They showed that for the first time since 1933, the US ments offered to shoppers, in- savings rate was negative for cluding the introduction now of two months in a row at minus huge discounts that tradition- 0.1 per cent in September and

In other words, Americans on average were spending slightly more than they were taking in from wages, rental income, dividends and interest on

ι.



Oxfam Hurricane Appeal

"Imagine your worst nightmare. Imagine waking up to something a hundred times worse."

Daniel Alegría, Oxian That's how

Hurricane Mitch felt to the people of Central America. Over 18,000 people are dead or missing.

Millions of survivors are in desperate need. Oxfam is there. Water equipment, sent within days of the disaster, is already saving thousands of lives providing clean, safe water and preventing further deaths from cholera and diarrhoea.

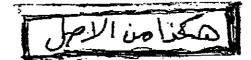
Food, medicines, and temporary shelters have been sent to help people who have lost everything. We need your help to do more. A water tap can cost as little as £25; a feeding kit for 500 people as much as £250.

Please send your gift to the Oxfam Hurricane Appeal. using the coupon below, or phone now on:

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Yes, I want to help. Here is my gift of: £25 🗆 £50 🗅 £100 🗆 £250 🗆 £

Please send to: Oxfam, Room 6817, FREEPOST, Oxford OX2 7BR Long term recovery in Honduras and Nicaragua will take decades and cost billions. Debt cancellation and long-term aid is the only sensible solution. If you want to know more about Oxfam's campaign for debt relief in Central America, please tick here.



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Bio-pirates raid world's genetic bank

IT ALL began with pepper, and it is to pepper that it has rein Delhi turned The lure of the spice trade brought the first Western merchants over the Arabian to he sun-baked bazaars of Trivandrum and Cochin for the fier black pod, piper nigrum, for which the exquisites of Eu-

rop had developed a passion. Eve hundred years later, a ney breed of merchants has cone back to India for the same commodity - and many others. But this time it is to obtail ownership of the material in new and, for many Indians, prioundly disturbing fashion: bytaking out patents.

They call it "biopiracy", and th progressive patenting by intenational companies, mostly based in the United States, of plints, herbs, spices and foodstiffs commonly available in the supcontinent and in use as midicines and staple foods for centuries has caused wave after wave of disquiet.

Last year it was the patentintof turmeric and a tree called nem - this has a hundred traditonal uses, including dispoable toothbrushes - which was the focus of public anger, win large and vocal demonstrajions in the capital

(wo years ago pepper was in the patent having been granted to Sabinsa Piscanway of New Jersey for bioperine, a pure extract of perper that was clinically tested in the US and shown to increse the bioavailability of nutitional compounds such as vitanins and amino acids.

abinsa has exploited the patint to claim exclusive markethg rights to the pepper extact, much to the consternathn and fury of some 47 i Indan growers and traders.

This year the US Patent Officecut even closer to the Indiarquick when it granted the American firm Rice Tech a patent for basmati rice. The firmpad earlier traded similar

such as Texmati and Kasmatiname and flavour synonymous with the finest Indian rice, as its own registered brand. Come next April, when India brings its patent laws into line with the will also be able to impose its exclusive brand in India, too.

The patenting of everyday items has galvanised a public whose memory is still raw from the insults of the colonial age. But it is only the most obvious manifestation of a new form of exploitation of the poor nations by the wealthy, from which, as ever, the rich will get the profit and the poor will get little or nothing.

The newest buccaneers to plunge into the Heart of Darkness in search of profit are hotanists and biologists, armed with nets and syringes and good sharp knives and machetes for hacking off the leeches, and laptop computers, too. Enlisting the help of tribespeople, they prowl through dense forests in quest of unknown substances that have the potential to transform our lives.

They are acting on a recognition that all the medicines on which the West's hospitals depend are derived from a tiny proportion of the world's natural wealth. Genetic scientists now acknowledge that the genetic wealth of the world remains vast almost entirely uncharted, and probably full of incredible potential.

That's why the new "biosleuths" are dailying with vampire bats (they have high hopes that their saliva contains a substance that may dissolve human blood clots), eyeing up the pygmy hog and amassing mountains of berries and plants and pieces of bark. As Helena Paul of London's Gaia Foundation

Yukon to pan for gold. You might just happen to patent the most valuable thing in creation."

The discovery of this extrabut now it can sell basmati, a ordinary genetic material, and its development into medicines that could transform the lives of millions - most would agree that was an absolute good. But as with pepper, turmeric, basmati World Trade Organisation's, it rice and neem, the same question arises: is not basmati rice indissolubly Indian? Whose bat saliva is it anyway?

The new explorers depend on local wisdom: it makes far more sense to sit at the feet of a witch doctor than to comb through every single weed in the forest. But how are the witch doctor and his tribe to be compensated for the intellectual property they so innocently hand over?

Activists in India and elsewhere fear that the biological heritage of the developing world is disappearing into the gene banks of the wealthy, from which it will return transformed, years later, as medicines or foods that put the traditional producers out of business - having given no benefit to the people from whom they were originally obtained.

It is, then, no accident that one of the rare exceptions to this exploitation is Indian. Ten years ago, in the rainforests of Kerala in India's deep south, two botanists trudging through the hills with guides from the Kani tribe were massively reinvigorated by some pale green berries pro-vided by their guides. Years later, tests proved the berries to be effective in fighting fatigue, and an Indian pharmaceutical company paid the institute for which the scientists worked £15,000 for the formula, plus 5 per cent royalties on sales.

In an unprecedented gesture, the scientists decided to split the royalties 50-50 with the Kani tribe. There ensued a violent argument within the tribe says: "It's a prospecting fever, about who was to get the



varities of rice under names like how people used to go to the money, but that's another story. An Indian tribesman holding a jeevani plant; scientists rely on local knowledge of natural cures. Dieter Ludwig

IN BRIEF

New drugs help curb Aids toli

THE NUMBER of people dying from Aids in Europe has fallen by 80 per cent since 1995, because of the use of new drug therapies, according to Dr Amanda Mocroft and Michael Edwards, writing in The Lancet. They said most of the success could be attributed to new drug treatments and how they were combined.

Clinton yet to give answers

THE JUDICIARY committee of the US House of Representatives was still awaiting Bill Clinton's written answers to 81 questions over the Monica Lewinsky affair yesterday. The questions were sent four weeks ago and the answers were expected that day.

Papai buil calls for penance

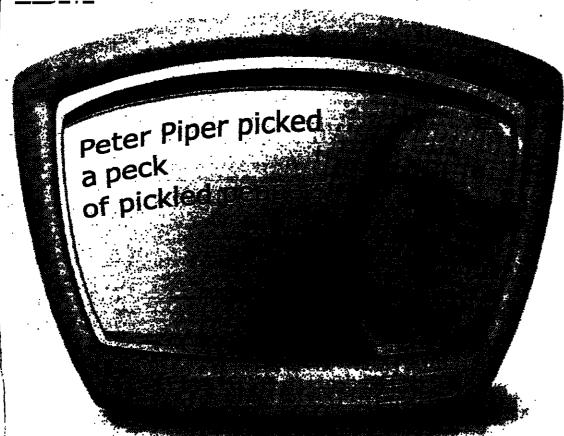
A NEW papal bull tomorrow will uphold the 700-year-old tradition of celebrating church anniversary years, or Jubilees, by offering "indulgences" - acts of penance to win forgiveness for sips. The Pope also is inviting acts of atonement by nations, in the form of forgiving Third World debt.

Minister jalled for rape of girl

THE FAEROES Islands' fisheries minister was sentenced to 10 months' iail after he was convicted of raping a teenage girl. During his trial in the Faeroes' capital of Torshavn, John Petersen, 50, admitted having sex with the girl when she was

Serbs excavate mass graves

BOSNIAN SERB experts expanded work to unearth suspected mass graves in Sarajevo's Lion cemetery and said they had found more bodies believed to belong to Serbs who died during the 1992-1995 war. By midday, they said they had found the remains of around 18 bodies.



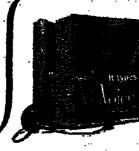
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Mexican children line up in the school yard as the Popocatepeti volcano throws up a column of ash in the dis-

Moving tale turns into a cliffhanger

THIS IS a story of a mountain, BY JOHN LICHFIELD a handful of stubborn villagers and the formidable French nountain is moving, so some eologists insist. The villagers refuse to move. And French officialdom, once its mind is

The result: deadlock. Unless the mountain really does move "That mountain is going nowhere," said Paul Pontonnier, pointing at the forbidding. mist-encircled cliffs of the

Ruine de Séchilienne, a 2,500ft miniature alp just to the east

"It's solid right through, save for a few pebbles which fall now and then. And that has always happened. I am not moving. Never. Never. Ten generations of my family have lived here. My wife is sick upstairs in bed. How can I

In theory, Mr Pontonnier the other remaining inhabitants of Lile Falcon must be gone by the end of this

This, at least, is the edict of the prefect of the Isère, the most senior government official in this department.

No one - not even the prefect - expects them to go eas-

in Lille Falcon

has been going on for 12 years. It will probably go on for several years more. Unless, of course, the mountain falls ...

Two-thirds of the villagers have already departed, their new law that allows the government to intervene to shift citizens in "imminent peril".

About 100 people remain, insisting, like Mr Pontonnier, that the whole business is "an

to Mr Pontonnier: he joined the local Maquis at the age of 15 in 1944. He still has a military bearing, somewhat spoilt Before you go to Lile Falcon

the story is clear. The French ment is acting sensibly, advice. One hundred million cubic metres of rock - enough to build 12 miles of motorway -could fall on the village at any moment. A few boneheaded diehards are refusing to see

lage, a pleasant community of mostly new houses in a wooded valley, nothing is quite so clear ever again. "Is that the mountain?" you confidently ask, pointing at a grim wall of snow and ice-spangled rock rising just behind the village Not at all." you are told, with snort. "It's that one over there." You are shown a sheerbut, by alpine standards, smallish-looking, mountain "But how could ...?"

"You see?" said Mr Pontonnier. "You see what I mean now?" In between the mountain and the village there is a since the individual alps were broad river, the Romanche, and the N91 main road from Grenoble to Briançon and Turin, one of the four principal road links between France and Italy. The French governdivert the road, which runs

station in the village.

"None of it makes any sense," said Rosa Poipy, 68, who lives in an old stone house at the end of the village, somewhat nearer the moving mountain. "In the winter this road has traffic jams three or four hours long, with people going Alpes and LiAlpe Huez. What if the mountain fell on them? But it's not going to fall. I have lived here 50 years. I have looked at that mountain every

day. Nothing has changed, The mois are still on the mountain They would be the first to



dent. The law was framed partly because of the fuss made by some residents and local politicians who insisted the village was at risk.

The complainers were almost ali newcomers who moved to the area from Paris or Marseilles or Lille when Grenoble area in the 1970s. It was they who first became alarmed by small fails of rock (The name reflects the unkempt appearance of the has been falling down ever

fight on their behalf. The other local people laughed. Government-appointed geolit was moving dangerously. iust below the allegedly unsta- The new law was passed: L'île ale cliffs. It is not planning to Falcon became a test case.

named centuries ago). Some

moved inexorably forward. Compulsory purchases vere

ordered last year The older-established jesi dents stopped laughing. Nost of the newer, avalanche fearing residents grabbed their om. pensation and moved back to Paris and Marseilles and lille (which may have been what they wanted in the first place).

André Pollet, head of the government roads and engineering department for tie Isère department, insists tie peril is real. "There is permanent, continuous, extremey slow movement in the mountain," he said. "The movement was once measurable only n geological time. It is now mesurable in human time. The catastrophe will happen in ths

generation." But how could a mountain destroy a village that is most ly a kilometre distant? Mr Pol let insists that, according to the would be swept away.

based on the original estimate of a 100 million cubic metro avalanche; even official esti mates now put the likely fall a no more than 3 million cubic

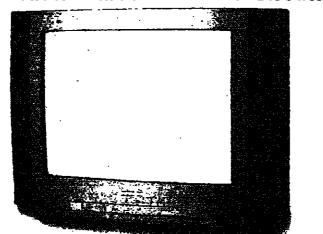
were approached by the villagers, including the respect of Grenoble University, say the entire problem is fictitiou. that there is no risk to the vilage at all.

The mayor of the commun in which the village stands energetically supports the rebels. Together they have made an appeal to the Frenci constitutional court, the Corseil d'Etat, the only power the map. The mayor, Gilles story, a sad story. Personally! don't think even the prefest believes any longer that thee local politicians took up the is any threat to the village. But too much prestige aid money is now invested for them to admit their mistakt

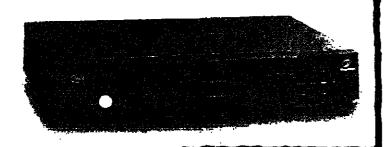
And so the battle goes on. marginally more likely, tie French government machine

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Prisoner held 33 years without trial goes free

RESTRICTIONS HAVE been lift- By STEPHEN VINES ed on the movements of the world's longest serving political prisoner, 57-year-old Chia Thye Poh, who was arrested in Singapore 33 years ago under a draconian internal security law introduced by the British.

Mr Chia served 23 years in jail without trial. In 1989 he was released but was banished to the island of Sentosa, which had been turned into a Disney-style theme park. Seven years ago he was allowed to leave the island, though restrictions were still maintained on his movements and place of residence.

These have finally been removed though he has been warned that renewed participation in his allegedly subversive activities will meet with a

harsh response.

in Hong Kong

Communist and by renouncing the use of force and terrorism. But in an interview with The Independent made while he was still under restrictions, he said he could not accede to this be-Communist and had never advocated terrorism.

"I wouldn't be able to live in peace. I cannot go against my conscience," he said.

The government claimed he was ordered by the Communists to join the legal Barisan Socialist Party and encourage demonstrations and strikes to destabilise the government.

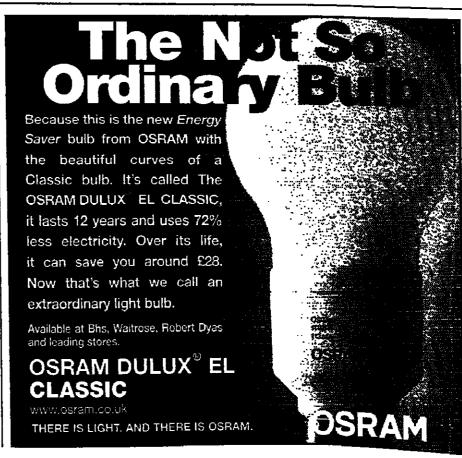
He says his real offence was to be elected to parliament and then resign in protest against Mr Chia could have extri- the government's decision to cated himself from jail much pull out of the federation that

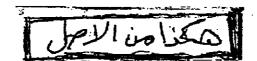
neighbouring Malaysia. The government's case has not been heard because Mr Chia has never appeared in court for trial. Indeed, it took the authorities 18 years to give a reason for his detention.

In a television interview vesterday, Mr Chia was not celecause he never had been a brating his release. "The best part of my life was taken away tust like that." he said

He called for the abolition of the Internal Security Act, which is also in force in Malaysia. where it was used to arrest the former deputy premier Anwar Ibrahim. He believes he scored some kind of pyrrhic victory by surviving his long jail term and

restrictions on his freedoms. The decision finally to restore his freedom is part of a number of moves under way in Singapore to ease the heavy hand of government on this earlier by admitting he was a formerly linked Singapore to highly controlled society.





HE INDEPENDENT

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Saturday 28 November 1998

Moonies build a new Garden of Eden in Brazil's cowboy country

HE HAS an impressive list of By PHIL DAVISON friends - Ronald Reagan, Latin America Correspondent George Bush, Augusto Pinochet. Not bad for a man ington Times newspaper, once who insists Jesus Christ was Mr Reagan's favourite read, a the product of an adulterous affair. But then the Reverend versity in Connecticut, a Man-Sun Myung Moon is convinced hattan travel agency and a golf he is the new Messiah, the course in California. Chosen One.

His political friends, even such ardent Christians as the three mentioned above, were prepared to ignore such idiosyncrasies so long as the South Korea-born self-styled spiritual leader supported their common cause - the battle against Communism. His church indirectly supported such "causes" as the CIA-backed Contra guerrilla war against Nicaragua's Sandinistas.

Attending the launch of Mr Moon's Spanish-language



Bush called him "a man of vision". But now that the Cold War is over Mr Moon's star has faded in the United States and he is looking to pastures new to build his "new Garden of

That is why you may nowadays find the head of the Unification Church, colloquially known as the Moonies, in the remote west Brazilian township of Jardim, or in nearby Paraguay, Uruguay or Argentina rather than in his £6m New York mansion or his farm in Texas.

He is building an airport in Jardim to accommodate not only his own Learjet but what he hopes will be planeloads of "America doesn't have anywhere to go now," he said in a this year. The country that represents Satan's harvest is America, the kingdom of extreme individuality of free sex."

who has lived mostly in the US for the past three decades, at Eden" in the unlikely cowboy his peak gathering up to 30,000 country of western Brazil, three his peak gathering up to 30,000 followers, and renowned for his mass marriages of thou- from the nearest city. He resands of Moonie couples. He still owns the right-wing Wash-

He also has investments in

ginseng, the arms industry in

Korea and the computer business in Japan, But his influence has dwindled since he was briefly jailed in the US in the late 1970s on charges of tax eva-sion. Parents of young men and women who fell under his spell - his insistence that he was "the true father" who could unite all churches since Christ. he said, was born out of an extramarital relationship - increasingly saw him as a ing their children. Many employed psychologists who could bring them back to reality. He still insists he has millions of followers but realistic estimates suggest there may be only 3,000

Then, last month, the wife of another son – and his potential heir - published a book billing him as a fraud and accusing her husband of abusing her while addicted to cocaine. He is still smarting from a string of failed land purchases in Africa and a car-manufacturing project in China. In recent years his followers have been kicked out of several strongly Catholic Central American nations, including Guatemala and El Salvador, for "bad manners," a euphemism for proselytising in the streets while on tourist

Venezuela recently barred his followers from any religious activities for the same reason. In Uruguay, where he also owns the newspaper Ultimas Noticias and the five-star Victoria Plaza hotel, his bank, Banco de Credito, was recently put under the control of the Central Bank after managevisitors to his new project. mentand liquidity problems. He to go but the Rev Sun Myung out of road.

Hence the move to what the 78-year-old Mr Moon considers fertile ground for his dream of Strong words from a man building "a kingdom of heaven on earth, a new Garden of and a half hours' rough drive portedly discovered it on a fishing trip, attracted by its location

-a tenth of the figure at his late-1970s peak. After Mr Moon lost a son in a high-speed car crash, a daughter turned against him rojects, including ambitious

The Reverend Sun Myung Moon, leader of the Moonies, conducting a mass wedding in South Korea

at the confluence of the Prata and Miranda rivers. It reminded him of Mesopotamia, the ancient cradle of civilisation built on the Tigris and Euphrates. It also reminded him of a kind of Jurassic Park. "If Spielberg came here, he'd be surprised. There are species that are 35 million years old," his regional director, Hideo Omayada, told a visiting reporter from the St says America has nowhere left Petersburg Times newspaper of Florida.

> ited resources. Enough to feed all of Latin America and the starving people of Africa," says Kim Yoon Sang in broken English. He is a leader of Mr Moon's new project in Jardim, which is in the state of Mato Grosso do Sul. "He have idea to show world how to end hunger. Our intention is a family, no a religion." After a drive along potholed roads and across muddy

rivers, his latest enterprise comes in sharp contrast to the rest of the remote countryside. More than 100 local workers are building a mini-country, called "New Hope," which will comprise more than 30 "theme cities." each one dedicated to something constructive within Mr Moon's dream of educating and feeding the world. One will concentrate on eco-tourism, another on handicrafts, others on various crops.

like a university campus under construction, with classrooms for studying Mr Moon's ideas, a theatre and a 2.000-seat cafeteria. His organisation, though it has now dropped the "church" reference to call itself The Association of Families for Unification and World Peace, is buying up 200,000 acres of farmland, at about \$500 an acre, from farmers glad to get the money.

A local Catholic priest, Bruno Brugnolaro, is not so welcoming. In a country where the traditional Catholicism is increasingly being undercut by evangelical churches from the US or elsewhere, he is clearly concerned as to Mr Moon's motives. "How can he talk about family when he has been married several times?" he told the Florida newspaper.

Fr Brugnolaro said the Unification movement did not appear to be making inroads among the local Brazilian farmers or their families, who at first looked on their arrival with bemusement and later with delight after the Jardim project created jobs and a potential tourist influx. Mr Moon has also been winning friends and influencing local politicians, re-

portedly lending them his heli- thought we were drug-dealers his premises and purchasing a fleet of ambulances for the township of 20,000 people.

But most of those who have already begun arriving for spiritual seminars and to help build up the project have been from

"At first, they [the locals] misunderstood us. They Eden.'

copter, inviting them to eat on or looking for gold or diamonds," said Mr Omavada. Commenting on the bureaucracy of buying land under what he called Brazil's "medieval" system, Mr Omayada said: "Brazil very difficult. Big country. Small mind. We try open up. This land very poor, but very fertile. Like Garden of

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Russian outpost where 34 is old

By PHIL REEVES

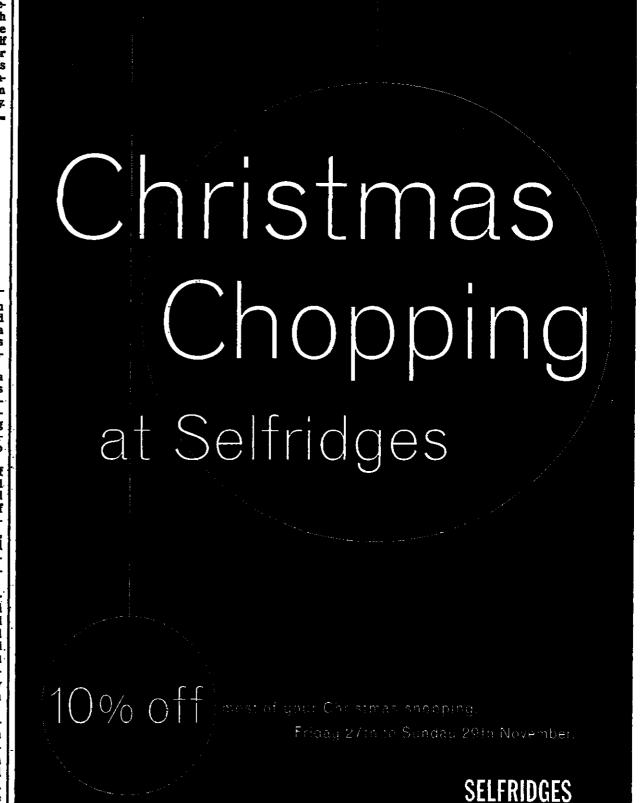
one of the most impoverished and remote parts of Russia has fallen to a mere 40 years and could be as low as 34, officials said yesterday. It is further evidence of a

deepening demographic crisis among Russians who, decimated by drink, poor diet, illness and dismal living conditions, have seen the population shrink by 900,000 in two years to under 147 million.

The astonishingly low age of \$4, which applies to men and women, was cited by the Red Cross yesterday as evidence of the misery in Chukotka, a re-gion in Russia's far north-east, where conditions have declined in the post-Soviet years, worsened by this summer's economic collapse.

Caroline Hurford, spokeswoman for the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, said the figure originated from the aid organisation. Médecins du Monde, which has been gathering information in the sparsely populated region, much of which lies within the Arctic Circle. The Red Cross issued a warn-

ing yesterday that Russia's north and Far East were facing "un-precedented hardship", which could "threaten the very survival of some indigenous minorities". Tens of thousands of people were in the grip of a bitter winter without heat, warm clothing or adequate food.



Big Sister is watching her neighbours in the village of eternal vigilance

A WEEK IN THE LIFE

YAO JINLAN, STREET WARDEN

Chinese city and you will still wardens wearing the distinctive red armband: "On Duty". Andeli district in central

Peking – population 2,345 – has retired women who make it blocks, and family dinner. their business to keep an eye on other people's lives. And 68- THE WORKING week kicks off year-old Yao Jinlan is the Andeli street committee boss.

Ms Yao, a widow, is a model street committee chief. Her life centres on the comings and goings of Andeli, with an eye on everything from rubbish disposal to the plight of newly redundant workers. Since 1982 she has won all nine elections to be the community's Communist Party chief.

SATURDAY: "ACCORDING to the regulations, Saturday is a and rice. rest day," she said. But Ms Yao still rose at 6.30 for the cleaning and laundry. Then a solitary on her cigarette, a small inlunch at 11.30, the noon tele-dulgence. "I used to have a vision news, and a nap – a midday routine followed nearly every day of her life. At 4pm she did the weekly vegetable shopping. Then she picked up the milk and the newspaper, cooked supper, and watched the evening television news iust as she does every single

Time then for a stroll around her tiny kingdom. "Of course it was sort of work," she says. "I am preoccupied by work, even on a rest day. I look at how the residents feel and see if there is any rubbish or bad hygiene work in the community." Then bath and bed by 10.30pm - as always.

NEXT DAY she is up early again before the weekly venture into the rest of Peking Every Sunday I go window shopping to get some inforoff to the Dianmen department store. "I don't buy anything; I just go for fun," she

WANDER THE streets of any by floor and just get the information about the prices. When see the neighbourhood street I get back I tell the others, family and friends." Then it was back to the flat at about 11am for another solitary lunch, television news, and snooze, fol-106 such unpaid neighbour- lowed by an afternoon stroll hood watch personnel, mostly around Andeli's 12 apartment

> with an 8.30am meeting of the eight street committee directors at which Ms Yao assigns the week's work. This week there are five issues: cracking bris; fire prevention work; supervising and organising shifts for the 106 street-level patrols: preparation of the Andeli yearend report; and arrangements for the old people's dormitory to stock up on winter cabbage

"We spent all morning on all this," laughs Ms Yao, drawing packet a day, but now I've tried hard to reform from smoking and I am down to two cigarettes a day," she says.

Lunch break is, as always. from 11am to 2pm. "After that I walk around." The main concerns of her residents, she says, are "to have a stable life and to hope that, when in difficulty, they can get help from

paid 400 yuan (£30) a month on feels proud of her team. Her 106 unpaid workers "are of a higher consciousness level, but they do not like to be nosey about other people's affairs". That morning a 64-year-old Andeli woman is sick, so when word reaches Ms Yao she accompanies her to the local clinic. The afternoon, the 17th mation about the market." So of the month, means it is the monthly political study session for Andeli's 38 Communist Party members. "We studied

ON TUESDAY, Ms Yao, who is Yao Jinlan at home in Andeli. When things are quiet, she studies the Ministry magazine about community service

about the reforms in the countryside. Everybody said this policy was a good policy," says Ms Yao. After disposing of political theory, it was an on-thespot inspection of some of the

of the 15th Party Congress,

good, and all very warm-hearted when they see us directors." After dinner, with the weather suddenly turning cold, Ms Yao goes to check the radiators in the old people's dormitory.

had to stay there all day to help anyone who came," she says. It was a quiet morning, "so I the Civil Affairs Ministry about even quieter. No visitors and no phone calls. Just another magazine and some planning for the year end report. "Not boring!" insists Ms Yao.

explains. "I walk around floor the spirit of the third session MIDWEEK FINDS Ms Yao on planning, ahead of meetings topics are the prevention of vent thieves coming in In fact

duty in the committee office. "I the following day. There are 500 fire, theft and gas poisoning. people among Andeli's population and community education is popular. Residents are studied the magazine sent by usually keen to become a street warden. "Some old community service". Back at ladies, when we invite them street wardens. "They are very her desk in the afternoon, it is and we give them the red armband, they are so happy about that," says Ms Yao.

> THE END of the working week, Friday, is a stressful day, with the meeting split between the THURSDAY IS a hectic day of morning and afternoon. The the doors and the yards to pre-

in 15 years we have had no All the 106 wardens and other retired residents have been invited. "Since the weather turned cold, the apartments are closed up, and people have to be careful of the gas," says Ms Yao, explaining that sometimes water can boil over and

Anti-theft measures are already routine. "It is the duty of the street patrols to watch

extinguish the flame on the

criminal case here in Andeli,"

So how does such a community stalwart manage to recuperate or even to include herself at the end of another busy week? "I am not particular about food, but I am particular about my clothes. I love rings, ear-rings and neckiaces. But I already have all of these. So I don't need to buy anything," she laughs.

TERESA POOLE

Japan tries £125bn therapy

BRIE

BY RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

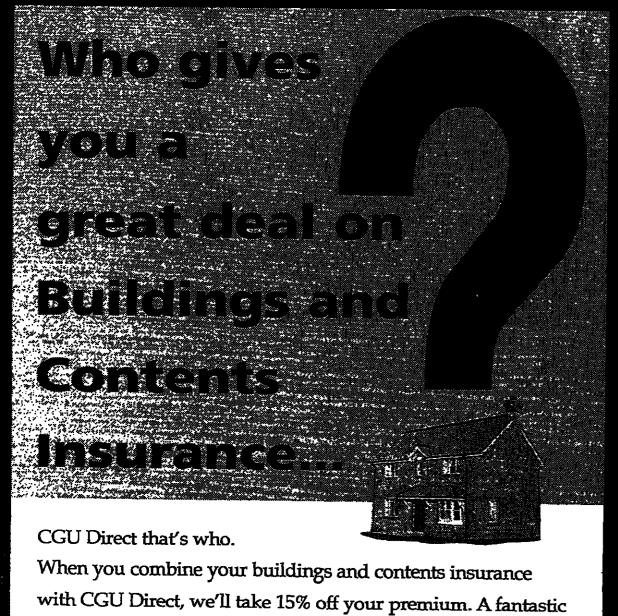
KEIZO OBUCHI, the Japanese Prime Minister, unveiled his government's latest attempt to spend its way out of recession vesterday. But his Finance Munister hinted he was about to resign, faced with a new round of depressing economic figures.

"Our paramount issue is setting the groundwork for a more healthy functioning of the financial system and resuscitating the economy." Mr Obuchi said at the opening of an extraordinary session of the Diet. The session's main task is to pass a supplementary budget to allow the government to spend 24 trillion yen (£125bn) to encourage public spending. It follows a disbursement of 17 trillion yen in April. Mr Obuchi predicted the latest spending would create a million jobs.

But figures yesterday showed no signs that the economy is moving out of recession. Unemployment remained at its highest level yet, 4,3 per cent in October, the third consecu-

In another blow to Mr Obuchi, the most respected member of his cabinet. Kiichi Miyazawa, suggested he would soon resign as Finance Minister, dismaying colleagues in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party. "It is not time for him to consider resigning," said the powerful cabinet secretary, Hiromu Nonaka. Mr Miyazawa, a former prime minister, had to be begged to take on the post in July and it seems he has had enough after four months in one of the most thankless jobs in world politics.

Mr Obuchi also spoke about plans to build four spy satellites to avoid a repeat of an incident in August, when a North Korean test rocket flew over its northern territory undetected. "The missile test by North Korea created considerable concern. It is necessary that we work to collect the appropriate information and establish measures to collect, analyse and disseminate information which has a bearing on regional security and crisis management,"



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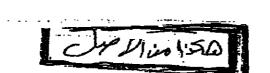
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THE INDEPENDENT Saturday 28 November 1998

BUSINESS Business & City Editor, Jeremy Warner News desk: 0171-293 2636 Fax: 0171-293 2098 E-mail: IndyBusiness@Independent.co.uk

BRIEFING

Blockleys on bid alert

BLOCKLEYS, the troubled brick group, was on bid alert last night after Natural Building Materials, its Aim-listed rival, revealed it had bought a 9.99 per cent stake in the company and said it could lead to a full bid. Shares in Blockleys jumped 8p to 44.5p – just short of the 45p per share paid by NBM – as the company advised its shareholders to sit tight. The move follows reports that institutional shareholders in Blockleys are unhappy about the company's performance.

Hong Kong recession deepens



HONG KONG yesterday announced the worst thirdquarter fall in economic growth on record. The bad news from this once resilient economy underlines the turnaround in the fortunes of the Asian countries, which were once considered as "Tiger' economies and Tiger cub economies. With just two exceptions, all the Tigers are now in recession.

Hong Kong, which reported a third-quarter economic contraction of 7 per cent, is predicting a 5 per cent fall for the full year, making it the second worst performing of the former Tiger economies. South Korea, facing its worst recession since the end of the civil war, is likely to see its economy decline by 7 per cent. Even Singapore has technically slumped into recession as third-quarter economic growth declined by 0.7 per cent. Of the four former Tigers only Taiwan still has a growing economy.

Virgin Direct guarantees rates VIRGIN DIRECT, Richard Branson's financial services

wing, yesterday launched a savings account that guarantees to pay interest no lower than 1 per cent below base rates until January 2001. The account, which requires a minimum saving of £1, is offering 6.25 per cent gross. Virgin also pledged to shift the savings rate within a month of any change in base rates. See Your Money, page 3

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FTSE 350 ·	2763.60	5.10	0.19	2969.10	2210.40	3.46
FTSE All Share	2665.80	4.91	0.19	2886.00	2143.00	3.49
FTSE SmallCap	2070.90	3.30	0.16	2793.00	1834,00	4.08
FTSE Fledgling	1142.50	1.10	0.10	1517.10	1046.20	0.00
FTSE ALM	814.10	-2.20	-0.27	1146.00	761.00	0.00
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Austria (schillings)	56.39	New Zealand (\$)	3.0058
Belglum (francs)		Norway (krone)	12.11
Canada (5)	<u>2.4719</u>	MOLMAN (MOLIE)	278.61
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17.0	<u> </u>	Source: Thomas Cook	

Barclays 'vulnerable' to takeover by Lloyds TSB

Reveals a £204m hit as BZW

raising question marks over BZW's future. Profits

profits fall by one-third.

Rumours of a NatWest

announces plans to step down in 1998

Barclays decides to wind up BZW

akeover mount

August Sir Peter Middleton

October Bill Harrison quits as

BY ANDREW GARFIELD Financial Editor

SPECULATION WAS mounting in the City last night that Lloyds-TSB, Britain's biggest high street clearing bank, is considering a takeover approach for rival Barclays following yesterday's sudden resignation of chief executive Martin Taylor.

"This immediate uncertainty offers an opportunity to potential bidders, particularly Lloyds TSB," said Jonathan Gollins, an analyst at brokers Fox-Pitt Kelton.

Outlook, page 21

"The competition hurdles would present some barriers, but Sir Brian Pitman (Lloyds chairman) and Peter Ellwood [chief executive] may conclude this is too good an opportunity to miss.

"Barclays is extremely vulnerable," said one corporate financier with close ties to all the major banks, "Remember all these deals are about getting boards to fit together. People are going to see there is a gap Other analysts pointed out

resistible to Sir Brian, who is keen to complete a major deal, and Mr Ellwood, who previously ran Barclaycard.

that Barclays could prove ir-

deal. Another huge obstacle is the attitude of the competition authorities, who have previously been reluctant to see a merger between the top four

1994

January Martin Taylor bought in as

Profits treble to £1.8bn

Buys Welts Fargo Nikko Investments for £287m

Starts buyback programme. Over the next 12 months

Barclays buys back almost £1bn shares, but cuts nearly

Bill Harrison arrives to head

1.500 iobs

However, Government offi-

Industry Secretary Peter Mandelson is more receptive to the argument that Britain needs a

. 1995.

"national banking champion", particularly with Germany's Deutsche Bank poised to agree a \$9bn takeover deal The departure of Mr Taylor cials suggest that Sir Brian has with America's Bankers Trust

Sir Peter Middleton, 62, the the best way of plugging the former head of BZW, has temgap left by Mr Taylor's sudden porarily stepped into the decision to resign. breach as chief executive until a permanent replacement is ster, which has a similar business profile to Barclays, Lloyds

Talk within the bank was is not a substantial player in the that Sir Peter favours a quick

drew Buxton as chairman once a new chief executive is found. Oliver Stocken, the finance

presence in the business bank-

ing market, which was one of

the main reasons why the Gov-

ernment was reluctant to ap-

prove a Barclays-Natwest deal.

Peter to step up to replace An-

The official plan is for Sir

director who was intending to stand down, has agreed to stay on until the next annual general meeting in April,

Barclays shares slumped by 114p to 1374p during the day as City analysts and fund managers were left confused about what was happening at one of Britain's biggest companies. with a stock market value of around £20bn.

Sentiment was not helped by Barclays' decision to announce that on current expectations the bank anticipates reporting pre-tax profits "of not less than £1.9bn" for the full year to 31 December, 1998. This compares with the latest City consensus forecast that pre-tax profits would be 22bn for the current year.

Barclays insisted that this did not constitute a profits

Peter Middleton, chairman designate, said: "No, no. It's not a profits warning. I think that when you have an event like Unlike National Westminthis you have to assure the market there's nothing going wrong in the bank with the numbers. The simple way to do that is to tell you what they

Standard Chartered warns on Asian profits

SHARES in Standard Chartered, the banking group, fell bearish comments on the Asian economic outlook from £6.9bn. its chief executive, Rana Tal- "The long-term prospects

revenues would be lower for the second half of 1998 because of dull lending conditions and lower earnings from the

4 per cent yesterday after shares dropped 28p to 667p, valuing the company at around

- - are good but the problems in Mr Talwar said the group's Asia are far from over and there is certain to be further ture," Mr Talwar said.

bank's Treasury division. The were taking profits after a mild alyst.

trading statement in October, when the bank said there had been no new debt problems of any size in the third quarter. Shares have risen from a low bid. of 375p earlier this year.

"Some people were expectvolatility in the foreseeable fu- that for the next 18 months it franchise and there's no would still be fairly bumpy be-City analysts said traders fore it picks up," said one an-

further falls in the share price would increase the group's firm. vulnerability to a takeover

ing it to be a smooth ride up- weeks, including Barclays.

doubts about its operation in Asia. That means its valuation is not excessive at this share

credit card business.

Profits hit by Asian crisis and BZW

September Reveals £250m provision for

losses on Russian markets. Is only UK bank to join in

rescue of hedge fund manager LTCM, raising

questions over its exp

Martin Taylor quits

to derivatives

were small in spite of the Asian £800m. The group has been linked crisis. Only 0.3 per cent of to several groups in recent mortgages in Hong Kong were forecasts yesterday. Michael three months in arrears. That compares with a figure of more than 2 per cent at big British just £760m.

Chartered said the statement er his estimate of £810m.

Industry observers said price," said John Yakas of Fox- had been issued to give clear-Pitt Kelton, the brokerage er guidance to shareholders because earnings forecasts Mr Talwar said bad debts ranged between £700m and

Some analysts cut their Trippitt of Schroders, who had estimated £794m, now predicts

A spokesman for Standard Broe said he would re-consid-

Psion founder steps aside for new chief

PSION, the handheld computer BY PETER THAL LARSEN maker recently identified by Bill Gates as Microsoft's biggest rival, yesterday appointed a 36-year-old publishing whizzkid as its new chief executive.

The move will allow David Potter. Psion's founder to take a less hands-on role. Psion has hired David Levin, currently chief operating officer of financial publisher Euromoney.

Mr Levin, who will join Psion in February, is expected to take control of the group's day-to-day operations. Mr Potter, 55, will become executive chairman with responsibility for Psion's strat-

"I am still fully committed to Psion but I do need to lead a rather more balanced and measured life," said Mr Potter, who had open heart surgery last year. However, he does not plan to retire for at least another five years. Mr Potter described Mr Levin as "a young man but a very mature one, with a strong background in business devel-



David Levin: joins Psion

handled its acquisition of Institutional Investor, the financial publishing house. Previously, he worked for Apax, the venture capital group, spending two years on secondment to Unicorn International, the engineering

Mr Potter said Mr Levin's lack of experience in the computer industry would not prove At Euromoney, Mr Levin a problem. "We have plenty of

people who are strong on the technology side," he said.

Mr Levin is expected to receive a financial package worth more than £300,000 a year, as well as a large chunk of share options. Analysts said the appointment filled the gap left by Solly Myers, Psion's managing director, who left earlier this year to run Symbian. Psion's software

Richard Ensor, managing director of Euromoney, said he was sorry to see Mr Levin go but was flattered that Psion chose its new chief executive from Eu-

ioint venture with mobile phone

groups Ericsson, Nokia and Mo-

The amouncement came as Euromoney warned that turmoil in financial markets and banking job losses would hit adver-

tising revenues at the group's magazines in the first half of its financial year to September, 1999. Shares in Euromoney, which is 71 per cent owned by Daily Mail & General Trust. tumbled 112.5p to 1750p.

Lasmo cuts 200 staff as oil prices plunge LASMO, the oil exploration By MICHAEL HARRISON

group, yesterday axed 60 per cent of its head office staff and parted company with two board directors as part of a sweeping corporate overhaul driven by the plunge in oil prices. A total of 200 jobs are to go

from Lasmo's Bishopsgate headquarters in London - a quarter of the group's worldwide workforce - in a bid to save £30m a year.

The two board members who are leaving, finance director Dick Smirnoff and John Hogan, who ran Lasmo's North Sea operations, are in line for pay-offs totalling around fim.

Both are on two-year contracts, although they are understood to be receiving 18 months' money. Mr Smirnoff earned £298,000 last year and Mr Hogan £286,000.

The rationalisation programme will cost Lasmo beween £30m and £40m, to be taken as an exceptional charge in the current financial year,



Joe Darby: aims to boost Lasmo's position

year Analysts were already pencilling in a £40m loss because of the collapse in oil

The boardroom shake-up will result in a new manage-Joe Darby continues as chief

executive, but Chris Wright, the new business director, and will leave the group nurs- steps up to the job of group ing a loss of around £30m for the managing director. Paul Mur-

rector, becomes finance direc-

Lasmo is also devolving its command structure to reflect its move away from traditional areas such as the North Sea into regions including Algeria, Libya, Pakistan and Venezuela where the group has major exploration acreage and reserves that can be exploited profitably even with oil prices at a 10-year low of \$10 a barrel. Under the new structure

there will be six new business units covering Europe and North Africa, Indonesia Venezuela, Libya, Pakistan and the Middle East. They will report to Mr Wright,

Mr Darby said the reorganisation was aimed at achieving a "radical and permanent improvement" in Lasmo's competitive position.

The cutbacks at Lasmo follow Royal Dutch Shell's move to cut 3,000 jobs in Europe - 20 per cent of its workforce - and close its London head office, Shell Mex House.

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

SHARES ended a busy week in positive territory as a strong opening on Wall Street wiped out the morning losses, partly driven by the suprise departure of Martin Taylor, the Barclays' chief executive. The FTSE-100 index closed up 16.3 points at 5844.2, after the Dow opened up on confirmation of the Exxon/Mobil mega-merger talks. The second liners, more focused on domestic issues, were less buoyant. The medium can ended 14.9 lower at

4,926.0, while the small cap rose 3.3

to 2,070.9. Market Report, page 21

OIL SHARES led stocks higher amid speculation that Exxou's talks with Mobil would spark other mergers in the industry. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 25.49 to 9339.77 in midday trading.

NEW YORK

"The U.S. economy continues to expand and create jobs, and corporate profits continue to rise in most industries, despite sluggish conditions abroad," said Abby Joseph Cohen, Goldman Sachs' investment strategis. She repeated her year-end target of 9360 for the Dow.

● |TOKYO STOCKS FELL after a series of

economic indicators, including October job figures, pointed to weakness in Japan's economy. The Nikkei 225 average fell 138.38 points, or 0.9 per cent, to 15,069.39. Sanwa Bank Ltd. and other

lenders slid on concern they are not taking enough of the government's 25 trillion yen fund to help write off bad loans, mounting during the country's worst recession in 50 years. "There are still plenty reasons to be nervous about the economy," said Ichizo Yamauchi at Kokusai Asset Management.

PARIS

THE blue-chip CAC-40 index closed up 35.41 points at 3,950.94. Stocks closed higher after a brief consolidation in the morning. lifted by another bout of M&A rumours, scrappy buying in underperformers and small early gains on the Dow. .

Operators said that talk of co-operation between Dresdner Bank and Credit Suisse First Boston had stirred up some buying in the banks again, with BNP the main beneficiary from rumours of a Dresdner/CSFB

FRANKFURT

THE XTRA DAX index rebounded

from early losses to close up 1.8 per cent at 5,159.21 points, pushed higher by Wall Street. Dresdner Bank surged 7.22 per cent on rumours it was considering cooperation with Credit Suisse First Boston. Dresdner would not comment on the rumour. Deutsche Telekom rose 4.65 per cent, unhurt by the news it had withdrawn its proposed fee structure for competitors' access to its fixed-line network after regulatory authorities recommended it do so.

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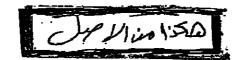
THE INDEPENDENT Saturday 28 November 1998

MAIN MOVERS Price Chy Tie Pit Code **FALLS** RISES 199.00 -18.80 169.80 -27.50 -11,78 100 00323 577 1880 00 575 95 ---545 15 298 07 3890 7720 -11.0 4.3 13.0 6699 3165 0.0 7.0 94 1432 -11.79 iE E Ster 12.50 12.72 14.20 -7.66 0.0 58 75 256 FOOD PEODUCE:
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THE INDEPENDENT, purder in November 1998



Taylor runs up against a brick wall

have to confess that having spent most of yesterday talking to those involved with Martin Taylor's shock resignation as chief executive of Barclays, including, briefly, the man himself, I am still no nearer to knowing the answer to this question. Far from being an admission of failure, this absence of a credible explanation for what occurred rather gives

The official version is that Mr Taylor has been wanting to go for quite some while now. He feels he's achieved all he was going to and Mr Taylor is the kind of man who, when he decides to do something, just goes ahead and does it. It hardly needs saying that even if this were to be the truth of the matter, nobody is going to believe it.

Chief executives of major, publicly quoted companies just don't resign in this manner. The reaction of the share price, which plunged nearly 10 per cent, tells you all you need to know about why. When a chief executive tells his board he wants to go, care is taken to stage manage the departure and prepare an orderly succession. Nor is it usual to pay the



Why did the man who pledged to revolutionise UK banking quit when there's so much to be done?

chief executive who voluntarily abandons his post "generous compensa tion", however fastidious he has been up until that point, and however out of touch with reality our board-

rooms have become. It is certainly true that Mr Taylor is a radical free thinker, with a sometimes quite eccentric approach to things. Part of his strength as a busi-

bound by established practice and ways of doing things. He is a former journalist, after all. And, of course, there is always a first time for everything. But the idea that "there simply is no story", which is what Andrew Buxton, the chairman, told me yesterday, just doesn't stack up.

I think we can safely discount the possibility that Mr Taylor has been involved in an incident with Rastafarians on Clapham Common, or that he has had some sort of mental breakdown, another popular theory in the City yesterday. Nor am I sugting he has been frogmarched to the door after some ghastly act of wrecklessness or negligence. But it does seem quite clear that

a gap has developed between Mr Taylor and his board; that he has lost the confidence of his fellow directors or at least that he believes he has. in recent months, Mr Taylor found himself frustrated at every turn, and he felt his ability to bring about change at Barciays was ebbing away. There is obviously grief here, some sort of strategy dis underlies it all, and it is silly of Bar-

Mr Taylor has achieved much in that meeting. I remarked that there his nearly five years with the bank, were rumours in the City of huge but things have not gone well for him in the past year. When he first pro- its exposure to the developing fiposed the sale of B2 w, he was nancial crisis in Russia. He seemed blocked by the board. Eventually they accepted his case but by then it may have been too late. They blamed him the sale of BZW. for the subsequent mishandling of the sale, and he blamed them for

dragging their feet. Nonetheless,

the sale was executed and when I

met Mr Taylor last summer, he was

in bullish mood. His job at the bank was only half complete, he told me, and he would only depart once he felt he would not be missed. That point was still a long to throw the world's financial system way off, he insisted. He wanted both into chaos. Again, Barclays was the to achieve his aim of introducing a only UK bank with a sizeable tradreal culture of excellence into Barclays' retail banking operation, and he desperately wanted to play a lead role in the big consolidation of UK

On the sale of BZW, he was unrepentant. It was the best business decision he had ever made, he insisted, for this was a high-risk operation of a type that Barclays shouldn't be involved with. As I left

banking he believes to be just around

losses at Credit Suisse as a result of relieved. It was as if he had left all those banking problems behind with

Within two months, it had

emerged that this was very far from being the case. Barclays became the only UK bank to announce a significant exposure to the Russian bond crisis. Worse, it was forced to participate in the rescue of Long-Term Capital Management, the US hedge fund whose near collapse threatened ing relationship with and loan exposure to LTCML

These two occurrences were a huge personal embarrassment for Mr Taylor. Here was a chief executive who had staked his reputation on reducing credit risk at Barclays.

It was a personal crusade and it was partly why he had sold BZW. Despite that, here was a bank that had to admit to involvement in the two most high-profile features of there were few calls from the press for Mr Taylor's head as a result of these misjudgements. This may have been an example of the finan-things done. cial press closing ranks to protect their own, for Mr Taylor's opposite number at National Westminster Bank, Derek Wanless, didn't get the same benefit of the doubt when he was going through a similar rough patch a couple of years back. All the same, this was plainly a watershed

of some sort for Mr Taylor. Was this the turning point at which Mr Taylor stopped getting his way, the critical point he referred to in his meeting with me where he could no longer make a difference?
The board is one thing. At this

stage it is only possible to speculate about what core strategy differences came between Mr Taylor and his fellow directors. Was it Mr Taylor's determination to forge a big consolidating merger? Or was it a difference of approach on operational matters?

Whatever the answer, Mr Taylor was meeting a brick wall. There was a difference of style - Mr Taylor, with his penchant for designer clothes and

the financial crash. Interestingly, intellectual reflection felt more and more out of place among the grey suits and stuffed shirts - and this was frustrating his ability to act and get

> That may have been the case among the ranks too. Mr Taylor has moved his own people into all the key executive positions within the bank. but ultimately a high street clearer such as Barclays is made up of an immovable rock of Captain Mainwaring types, of a deeply conservative army of branch bank managers. This is the backbone of the bank, and it cannot easily be changed. What's more, such people don't take kindly to being pushed around by someone as intellectually charged and radical as Mr Taylor.

So what happens next? Mr Tay-lor leaves behind him a much stronger bank than the one he inherited, but also a rudderless one with a major public relations mountain to climb, at least as far as its shareholders and the City are con-

Just why did Mr Taylor, who promised to change the face of British banking, resign when there is plainly still so much left to be done?

Banking sector buzzes with takeover talk

BARCLAYS yesterday shook the market out of its Friday torpor and spiced up an otherwise duil day. The big news broke before the start of trading. As dealers walked in, looking forward to squaring their books and disappearing into one of the City's watering holes, they were rattled by the shock departure of the bank's chief executive Martin Taylor.

With a profit warning thrown in for good measure, Barclays' fate was sealed before one share had changed hands. When the market did open, the stock drowned in a sea of red. finishing 114p down at 1.374p the worst performance in the Footsie, More than 25m shares were traded, the second-high est volume in the whole market.

Barclays-watchers spent the day torn between surprise and speculation over the future of the blue-chip bank. Most deal-Taylor's departure. Those who summoned the strength to talk spoke of a vague rumour of a bid from Lloyds TSB, up 11.5p to

CHARRIOL the investment vehicle of former Leeds football club boss Chris Akers, was suspended at 117.5p after having soared more than 23 per cent.

The company, which is 10 per cent owned by Mr Akers, said it was negotiating a "substantial acquisi-

The smart money is on a reverse takeover of a medium-sized IT company.

869p, or a revamp of merger plans with NatWest, down 11.5p at 1,137, or a break-up of the business.

The banks' day horribilis was completed by Standard Chartered, a rumoured Barclays target only a while ago. The emerging market outfit posted a 28p deficit to 667p after warning that the Asian crisis will slash second-half revenues. HSBC, the fellow Hong Kong bank, fell 28p to 1,675p in sympathy.

Footsie was able to shrug off the banks' woes with more than a little help from Wall Street's firm opening. After a morning of losses, the blue-chip index swung back into profit as its American counterpart cheered confirmation of the Exxon-Mobil merger talks. Footsie ended 16.3 higher at 5844.2. True to form, the smaller indices fared less well. The midcap closed down 14.9 to 4926.0 while the small cap scraped through with a 3.3 gain to 2070.9.

Name

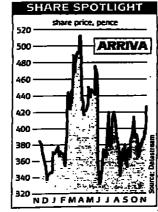


FRANCESCO **GUERRERA**

Telecoms were ringing in ins. Colt Telecom, the recent Footsie entrant, spearheaded the rally with a 6.7 per cent gain to 811p, which propelled it to the of the blue-chip board. Cable & Wireless was also on the line, rising 30p to 785p after SG said "buy".

JJB Sports, the sport retailer, found some buyers after ers were left speechless by Mr a tough period in the relegation zone. The shares topped the medium cap big risers' chart with a 13.2 per cent rise to 235p. A lunch with Charterhouse Tilney was said to have allayed the fears triggered by rival Hi-Tec's profit warning earlier in the week.

Corporate activity was the driver of Arriva's share rise. The bus group stopped at 426.5p



after a 24p upwards journey. Broker Panmure was said to have jumped on the "buy bandwagon" after the £47m buy of a couple of Dutch bus groups.

Arriva's rival Stagecoach ramped up 10.5p to 235.5p, thanks to a correction of a roguish trade on Thursday.

Marley, the bricks group being stalked by smaller rival John Mansfield, built on the previous day's gains with a 6.6 per cent advance to 105. The market is hoping a higher counterbid will materialise shortly.

Weir Group, the engineer, has replaced Marley as the butt of bid speculation. The shares climbed 4.5p to 227.5p as ITT Industries of the US displaced domestic companies as the favourite suitor.

COMPANY RESULTS

Pre-tax (£)

No such back for Cattles. the credit company that likes to say yes to high-risk borrowers. The shares phimmeted 4.6 per cent to 612.5p after it scrapped the sale of two divisions because of a lack of buyers.

But it was Devro, the maker of sausage skins, which claimed the prize of mid-cap worst performer. Thursday's profit warning took some brokers time to digest and yesterday's downgradings trimmed the price down more than 11 per cent to 169p, its all-time nadir.

From human food to dog food. Pascoes, the maker of pet delicacies such as Pascoes Original and Pascoes Chicken, rose over 11 per cent to 24p after a hands.

Smaller equities were excited by a rare spurt of takeover activity Focus Dynamics, an underperforming maker of industrial lawnmowers, soared almost 60 per cent to 31.5p, after receiving a 35p a share offer from Ofex-traded Corporate Services.

EXPECT a flood of deals at Quadrant Healthcare, up 5p to 81.5p. The biotechnology company yesterday won a long-running patent dispute against its founder Bruce Roser. Mr Roser, who resigned before the company float in March, claimed rights to Quadrant's technology. The High Court ruled in favour of the company, which specialises in finding new ways of deliver-

Blockeys, a builder merchant, put on 8p to 44.5p on suggestion that rival Natural Building Materials may use its 9 per cent stake to mount a bid.

ing drugs.

Delcam, a software company, was the day's major disaster. It plunged 44 per cent to 28.5p after warning that earnings will be hit by non-paying Russian customers.

Mediakey, the agency that uses stars such as John Cleese and Hugh Laurie to produce amusing training videos, had reasons to be sad. The closure of one division and a £1.4m exceptional charge wiped the smille of its investors' faces and a third off its price which closed at 7p.

Headway, a sofa-bed maker, completed the small-cap profit warning's hatrick. It talked of difficult market conditions and its shares slumped 7.5p to 26.5p.

Pay day

SEAQ VOLUME: 835.4m SEAQ TRADES: 59,982 GILT INDEX: 11/a

Wim Duisenberg: Monetary policy can play some role in stabilising output and employment growth'

Duisenberg raises hope of rate cut

the European Central Bank, vesterday raised hopes of a cut in European interest rates before the single currency begins when he said monetary policy could be used to fight unem-

ployment.

"In specific circumstances, if production, inflation and employment all move in the same direction, monetary policy can play some role in stabilising output and employment growth without endangering price stability," he said in a speech at the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London.

"Price stability is not an end in itself: it creates the conditions in which other, higher-order, objectives can be reached. In particular, I share the deep concerns about the unacceptably high level of unemployment in Europe," Mr Duisenberg said.

Economists interpreted the speech as a strong signal that

Talk to the most power

WIM DUISENBERG, president of BY ANDREW VERITY

the European Central Bank will fix rates at 3 per cent when it meets on 22 December, a rate 0.3 per cent lower than previously expected. Some anticipate that rates in

1.5 per cent by the middle of next year as the ECB is forced to combat defiationary pressures. Gerard Lyons, an economist at DKB, the Japanese bank, said: "It is quite clear that the core rate is going to go down and it's possible that interest rates could be cut within the next three weeks. The big question is whether it is before or after

the Euro zone will get as low as

the single currency starts." There is growing economic pressure on the ECB to adopt a doveish approach following weak data on output and economic growth in Germany and France. Inflation is running at just 0.5 per cent in France and

0.7 per cent in Germany.

"Growth is slowing quite dramatically and the inflation readings are coming in low. You could end up with inflation of 1 per cent and growth of 1 per cent if the ECB can't show it is willing to ease." said David Mackie, an economist at JP Morgan, the investment bank.

The core rate will be based on the Franco-German convergence rate of 3.3 per cent. Economists believe a cut could take place as soon as Thursday, when the Bundesbank board holds a penultimate meeting on interest rates.

Mr Duisenberg also surprised economists when he said: "I know of no central bank which has been so open and transparent as the European central bank." Asked about publishing minutes of committees setting interest rates, he said he was "not an admirer" of the practice.

IN BRIEF

Arriva pays £47m for Dutch buses

TRANSPORT GROUP Arriva is paying £47m for two Dutch public bus companies as part of its European expansion drive in a move that will give the British group 20 per cent of the Dutch bus market.

Veonn Groep and Hanze Groep, the two Dutch companies, have 3500 employees and operate in 30 towns and cities in the north of Holland. Arriva shares jumped 24p to 426.5p on the

Sketchley loss

SKETCHLEY, which sold its high street dry cleaning and SupaSnaps businesses in July, has reported a 5 per cent increase in half-year profits on its continuing operations to £2.4m. However, a £10.4m loss on the sale of the retail division

pushed the group £4.2m into the red. The company said its remaining textile and industrial workwear divisions are trading well.

Oriental dip ORIENTAL RESTAURANTS,

which runs some of the City of London's favourite Chinese and Thai eateries, has reported a fall in halfyear profits to £612,000 (£701,000) due to a fall in interest receivable. The company said sales had held up despite uncertainty in the Square Mile. The underperforming Sri India is to be managed by Birmingham group Shimla Pinks and rebranded under that name from early next year.

Park falls further

PARK GROUP, the Birkenhead food and financial services group run by Everton football club chairman Peter Johnson, has reported deeper first-half losses. Losses increased to £7.1m compared to £6.1m last Far East economic turmoil

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SPORT

Rugby Union: Small bloke at the back now big bloke near the front for Cook Cup clash with England at Twickenham

Bowman rides fast route to 'Wallabydom'

IT IS almost six months since Tom Bowman, a country boy from the Northern Tableland of New South Wales, made his international debut for Australia in the now notorious non-Test against England in Brisbane. He was, in his own words, "the small bloke at the back of the team, trying desperately not to do anything stupid." The intervening 176 days have seen him play the lead role in one of the most spellbinding performances in Wallaby history, sidestep Jonah Lomu on the way to a famous Bledisloe Cup try and, together with the great John Eales, forge the best second-row partnership in world rugby. When the tourists emerge at Twickenham for this afternoon's Cook Cup encounter, Bowman will be the big bloke near

You need more than an elongated inside-leg measurement to give Lomu the hurry-up, although every extra inch helps. You also require pace and nerve and the unbuttoned confidence of youth and the most recent addition to a fast-developing Wallaby pack possesses all this and more. At 22, Bowman is still in the process of filling out a frame to die for - 6ft 7in, the best part of 19 stones and counting - and, by way of rubbing it in, he is equipped with the handling skills of a threequarterdecent basketball player and the same natural farmworker's strength that gave the All Black forwards of but I took a fair bit of stick in the Sydyesteryear a certain, how shall we ney papers for my trouble. Second say, physical presence.

So, apart from absolutely everything, what does Bowman bring to ner flag." this latest Wallaby vintage? "He Macqueen with the smile of a coach who knows he has struck gold. short distance from Tamworth and we've nicknamed him 'Disaster'. We went swimming earlier this week and Tom decided to try some backstroke. The next thing we knew, Ealesy had a black eye. Tve never

met anyone so bloody clumsy." Not that Bowman looked remotely ham-fisted as he skated past Lomu in Christchurch in August. The Australian performance that South Wales Under-21s, the normal

BY CHRIS HEWETT

day was something to behold; five minutes from time they were leading 27-9 and, despite two late New Zealand tries, it is doubtful whether any previous visiting side had so comprehensively marmalised the All Blacks on their own mudheap. "I kind of suspected it might be my day when the ball bounced straight into my arms from the kick-off and I had a rumble upfield," recalled the Sydney-based lock. "I seemed to be where the ball was throughout the game. Sometimes, you just get

And the try? "Jason Little slipped round the blind side of a ruck and flung out a chancy sort of pass that I had to pick off my toes. When I looked up, there was Jonah. Well, I didn't fancy my chances of going over him, so I decided to go round him. What can I say? Everything worked for me. It was a wonderful moment,

'He brings us a lot of grief. Every time he goes near one of my players, he damages him. That's why we

nicknamed him Disaster'

rows aren't meant to lurk out on the touchline and score tries at the cor-

Bowman came to rugby through near the small town of Barraba, a "Every time he goes near one of my about six hours north of Sydney. "Dad watch the local side and I learned the ropes there as a junior before going off to Sydney to board at Scott's College. I played No 8 for a while and had the odd game at blind side, but to be honest I always felt more comfortable in the second row.

"From Scott's I went through the grades - Australian Schools, New

route ~ and then got myself picked for the Argentinian leg of last year's Wallaby tour. I didn't make it over here to Britain; I was one of six or seven guys packed off home after the Puma Tests. But it was a big thing just to be involved."

By the time a half-baked England party reached Queensland for the first international of their punishing sojourn among the southern hemisphere superpowers, Bowman had taken the final step towards fullyfledged Wallabydom. Was it possible to draw any real satisfaction from shoving 76 points up the stuffed white shirts of an opposing team patently unable to rise above their chronic outbreak of absenteeism? "Satisfaction? Gee, I should say. I thought it was great. My first Test and we put 76 on the English? I wasn't going to cry about it, that's for

"I guess it was like everyone else's debut. People told me I'd run around like a chicken with its head off for the first five minutes and not remember a thing and that's pretty much how it was. I do recall it being a bit on the stop-start side, probably because we kept on scoring. But, in fairness to England, their defence was all over us for half an hour. We had to work hard for the initial breakthrough, then the backs cut loose."

A full-strength England will he insists, prove a very different proposition this time around. But then the small gaggle of Brisbane survivors - Matt Perry, Austin Healey and Richard Cockerill - will find themseives confronting a very different Bowman. "I've got 11 caps in the brings us a lot of grief," said Rod his father, Roger, who farms land locker now and I'm beginning to feel more relaxed, more able to play my game and more confident in the sense of bringing something of mynew guy any more.

"John Eales has helped me so low me' way, but just in his being there. I can't tell you the vibes I get just from looking up and seeing him right on top of the ball, doing his stuff. The thing with John is that he doesn't rush you. He appreciates that you need some time to grow into



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much; not in a 'do this, do that, fol- Test rugby and he's happy to let you Waratahs and the acute Macqueen Gavin, David Giffin, Owen Finegan age at the moment, but there's a lot earn the respect of the rest of the team in your own way and at your

own pace." That pace just happens to be lightning fast. Bowman has played more

full Tests for his country than Super

12 matches for the New South Wales

can take enormous credit for the success of his fast-tracking policy The Wallabies have been searching high and low for a second lock since Rod McCall called it a day after the 1995 World Cup; Garrick Morgan,

Warwick Waugh, John Welborn, Tim

and John Langford have all been tried at one time or another. Not one of them did enough to make the shirt

"The great thing about Tom is his honesty," says Macqueen. "He's playing a good few years above his

more to come and he'll do everything be can to make sure he produces it." More to come? Heaven help us. Unless Eales takes his revenge on young Master Bowman in the nearest swimming pool, we may all be

Mad, bad, dangerous to know and a fan of the fistic arts

THE FIGHT was staged a couple of centuries ago at Hornchurch with 200 guineas wagered on each of the bare-knuckied combatants - Jackson and Mendoza. Judging by the newspaper report of the time, those present would not have been disappointed by the spectacle.

Fourth round. This was the heart of the battle - fear was out of the question, and the combatants lost to everything but victory. Jackson, confident of his powers and knowledge, went in with great courage, treating the science of Mendoza with indifference and punishing him most terribly, when Dan fell from a severe blow upon the right eye which bled profusely. The odds rose upon Jackson." This account, in the exhibition of

British Sporting Heroes currently at the National Portrait Gallery, evokes the spirit of pugilism in the



MIKE ROWBOTTOM

days when bouts went on until one man was broken. A neighbouring print celebrating the English champion, Tom Sayers, details contests which lasted two or three hours, involving more than 100 rounds. His final fight, against the American

port has been preserved, literally, as part of a folding screen covered in a varnished collage of boxing articles and pictures. And the man responsible for this painstaking

découpage was Lord Byron.

Certain words or phrases are acceptable in connection with Byron. Romantic poet. Demon lover. Mad, bad and dangerous to know. All fine. But Byron and découpage. Pm sorry. The words just will not stick together.

We are told that George Gordon, the sixth Lord Byron, was sufficiently interested in the "fistic art" to bave received instruction from the legendary champion, "Gentleman" John Jackson. To learn, however, that such an acceptably Byronic approach was accompanied John C Heenan, ended in a blood- by an activity more akin to a child

was touching.

Personally, I regard Byron as more of a hero now than I did before, even if his main sport, apart from the odd spot of pugilism, was restricted to the gaming table and the boudoir.

The exhibition as a whole raises as many questions as it answers about what constitutes a British Sporting Hero.

Victory is not obligatory. Looking into the glazed eyes of Barry McGuigan, dehydrating in a Las Vegas car park en route to losing his world featherweight title to Steve Cruz in 1986, you can see the scorched residue of a true champion.

Honourable defeat is an acceptable credential here. A 1937 picture shows Tommy Fart "recently home

ied draw after two and a half hours. covering his wall with posters of trom his world title fight against Joe
The Jackson and Mendoza reLennox Lewis and Prince Naseem Louis" having tea with his family. The big Welshman - cup in one hand, fag in the other - has the look

of a man who has returned with his reputation intact, if nothing else. For a distressing number, heroic auras have been intensified, if not created, by premature death. The 1911 picture of the Oxford and England rugby winger Ronald Poulton,

muddy-kneed, absurdly handsome, and four years away from death by sniper fire, could stand a testament to a whole generation.

The death of the man who scored five tries in his first Varsity match, and four against France in 1914, moved A Ollivant, in The Spectator, to elegy: "Ronald is dead; and we shall watch no more/ His swerving swallow flight adorn the field..." The modern era has its own sad share of those who died before their time

- Jim Clark, Mike Hawthorn, exhibition offers its own tacit judge-Tommy Simpson.

There is a distressing strand, too, of those who took their own lives. Among the exhibits is the riding gear worn by the jockey Fred Archer, whose invincibility in the late 19th century gave rise to the phrase "Archer wins on anything", shortly before he died at 28 - "depressed by the death of his wife, weakened by wasting, shot himself in a fit of delir-

Others who committed suicide include Arthur Shrewsbury, the Nottinghamshire and England batsman, who shot himself in 1903, "in the belief that he had an incurable disease". Randolph Turpin, who was briefly world champion after defeating Sugar Ray Robinson, and Hugh Gallagher, the celebrated Newcastle United player.

An ongoing poil of visitors to the

ment on what constitutes the British Sporting Hero. In reverse order, the current top three are Daley Thompson, Steve Redgrave and Ian Botham - three characters for whom victory has never been

anything other than obligatory. Is there any common characteristic here? Is there an essence of sporting heroism present to greater or lesser degree in all those gathered under this roof? It is sensible to beware of making any sweeping statement on the subject.

I'm thinking now of the event which The Times described as distinguishing the 20th from the 19th century "as decisively as anything that has happened in the last 30 years". It was, of course, Marjorie Foster's achievement in winning the 1930 King's Prize, that traditional preserve of male rifle shooters.



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THE INDIPENDENT

Coaches at Twickenham reject grudge factor

NOVEMBER IN Dublin and time for another hard luck story. Ireland will charge onto Lansdowne Road today, bristling with intent, and 80 minutes later a victorious South Africa will compliment their opponents on a hard game, not to mention their hos-

The script rarely changes although to be fair to the Irish they got amongst the Springboks in an infamous Test in Pretoria in the summer. On that occasion South Africa did not thank the Irish, they condemned them for their hostility. Ireland had lost the first Test in Bloemfontein 62-10, and although they lost the second 33-0 they went down fighting. The Englishman, Ed Morrrison, refereed the first match and it was relatively incident-free; a Frenchman was in charge for the second and all hell broke loose. The general consensus was that the referee had a bad day and when a high and late tackle on the Springbok scrum-half, Joost van der Westhuizen, went unpunished, the impression was gained that both teams could indulge themselves with

Had Lansdowne Road been Madison Square Garden, a repeat of the punch-up in Pretoria would produce a sell-out. Unfortunately, the parties concerned here were being ultraresponsible, playing down any attempts to describe today's All Black, Sean Fitzpatrick, South Africa's fabulous run.

By Tim Glover

Pretoria, the Springbok's enlightened coach, Nick Mallett, said he was appalled at the vi-olence; in Dublin he was telling a different story.

"It's not a concern. I think the second Test was an aberration. What happened was that in the first Test we weren't prepared for the physical confrontation. It was our fault, we weren't perhaps as respectful of the Irish as we should have been. There was a massive difference between their performances in the Tests and the provincial games. We judged them on their midweek performances and were surprised at how physical and committed they were. History tells us that Ireland can be 50 per cent better on a Test day."

Ed Morrison was the original choice to referee today's match but declined on the grounds that familiarity can breed contempt. Clayton Thomas of Wales will be in charge, with Morrison a

As it is, the head-to-head confrontation between Keith Wood and James Dalton, providing the latter gets over a niggling hamstring, could be worth the admission money alone. With the retirement of the great



Naka Drotkse throws to the high-flying Mark Andrews as South Africa complete preparations for today's game against Ireland

the world's foremost bookers but two of the most abrasive and influential players in international rugby.

Wood was in his element on . the Lions tour to South Africa last year and he will have to play another huge game if Ireland, whose tight five emerged with credit from their short tour of the Republic, are to have a serious chance of interrupting

side playing its first match under the New Zealand coach Graham Henry. "I don't think people have given Wales enough credit for that performance," Mallett said. "They really were very good that day, added to which we were off our

at Wembley for a variety of

reasons, not least an inspired

all-round performance from a

Scotland at Murrayfield normal service was resumed. That victory last Saturday extended their sequence to 16 successive Test wins and another today will equal the world record set by the All Blacks in the mid-60s.

Warren Gatland, Ireland's New Zealand coach, has been quick in the last few days to change his stance from one of damage-limitation to a rallying South Africa looked under- call that Ireland can pull off a

talk of a purely defensive approach," Gatland said. "We are going out there to win and we believe we can. Anything else would be doing the Irish jersey As for the jersey, Ireland will

wear not green but white with a green shoulder trim. Gatland has seen the light, even if it's still at the end of the tunnel.

Ponty rest Williams for visit of Neath

PONTYPRIDD HAVE delayed naming their side for today's Welsh Premier Division clash against Neath at Sardis Road because of a number of injury problems.

But the Wales Clanker, Martyn Williams, is definitely out of the reckoning after sulfering an ankle injury during last Saturday's international against Argentina.

Williams has had a scan that showed slight ligament damage and Pontypridd have decided to rest him in the hope that he will be fit to face the league leaders, Llanelli, at Stradey Park next

Neath have their own injury worries with their scrum-balf and captain Patrick Horgan (ankle) and flanker Brett Sinkinson (fractured cheek-bone) ruled out. Shane Williams takes over from Horgan while Dale Jones comes into the back row.

Llanelli, who top the table by two points, are also waiting until just before kick-off before announcing their side to travel to Aberavon who are bottom of the pack with only one point to show for their efforts.

The Scarlets intend to give the Wales No 8, Scott Quinnell, as much time as possible to recover from a groin strain.

Aberavon have included the former Great Britain rugby league international, Garry Schofield, in the centre as they seek to end a run of six straight

Ebbw Vale have named three of their transfer-listed players in the team to face Caerphilly - and it would have been four if outside-half Byron Hayward had not been sidelined with a knee problem.

Wing Lennie Woodard, centre John Funnell and scrumhalf David Llewellyn take their places in the line-up, and Jason Strange comes in for Hayward against the only Welsh club to qualify for the quarter-finals of the European Shield.

Bridgend will be without scrum-half Steve Wake for the visit of Newport as Cardiff have recalled him from his loan period because of a knee injury suffered by Robert Howley.

Howley is to have a minor operation that will put him out of action for about three weeks and Cardiff are unlikely to release Wake again until the Wales captain is fully fit.

Wake is replaced by teenager Andrew Jenkins while Newport introduce another Great Britain rugby league player in Jason Critchley. The Black and Ambers have also called up the Canadian centre, Kyle Nichols, who has recovered from back trouble.

Scotland game overshadowed by Irvine and Jeffrey

SCOTLAND EXPECT to romp to BY ALAN LORIMER their World Cup qualifying match at Murrayfield today, but even a thrashing of the understrength minnows will do little to lift the gloom surrounding the

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game in the country. An alarming decline in standards on the pitch has now been matched by chaos off it as Andy Irvine and John Jeffrey, two of the most respected figures in the game and both coopted members of the Scottish

from the governing body after the union refused to take on board their blueprint for the future of the game in Scotland.

Irvine, who was not even allowed to speak at the SRU meeting which rejected his plan, was hugely disappointed: "I framed what I thought was a sensible way forward after consulting with a wide range of people in rugby. The SRU felt unable to back it so I resigned Rugby Union, have resigned as a matter of principle."

way it is run: "No longer can a business the size of the SRU, with a turnover approaching £20m, be run by a group of wellmeaning amateurs."

Jeffrey was similarly disillusioned after the SRU changed the structure of the Super Districts concept without consulting him. "I spoke out once or twice but thereafter I was effectively gagged by the Union and told to speak through the SRU's media officer," he said.

And, with the SRU £17m in "Then, this month, I was acute-fielding a weakened side fol-their early 20s - raw in experitive match but we know that they debt, Irvine condemned the ly embarrassed by the lack of lowing the refusal of French ence but eager to move the ball will raise their game. Our first spectators for the South African match at Firhill. There was a crowd of less than 1,000 to watch the world champions and less than 30,000 at Murrayfield last Saturday."

Jeffrey is likely to be disappointed again today, when the visit of lowly Portugal is unlikely to attract fans who were not interested in watching the Springboks. Portugal were always clubs to release Portugal's ing players.

"It's unfair that Brive will release Gregor Townsend to play for Scotland but will not allow Cecil Leite to play for Portugal," said the Portugal coach, João Paula Bessa. "I'm fed up with this kind of treatment."

Portugal have delayed naming their team for the first meeting between the two countries, unlikely to offer any real test to but the side is expected to be the Scots, but the visitors will be made up mainly of players in

given the chance.

"That's a skill we get from sevens rugby. It's a very good school for the XVs game," Bessa said. Scotland have the chance to

experiment with a number of moves, and the head coach Jim Telfer said: "I'd like to think we can build on what we've been doing in the last few weeks." John Rutherford, the assistant

coach, said: "Without sounding arrogant, we will be favourites for

priority will be to win." SCOTLAND: G Townsend (Brive): K Logan (Waspa), J Mayer (Edinburgh Reivers), J Lesilia (Glasgow Caledoniara), C Marray (Edinburgh Reivers): D Hodge (Edinburgh Reivers), B Redpanth (Edinburgh Reivers, Capt): T Smith (Glasgow Caledonians), G Bullech (Glasgow Caledonians), G Bullech (Glasgow Caledonians), D Hillion (Both): S Marray (Bedford), D Willian (Newcastle Falcons): M Lesilia (Edinburgh Reivers), E Peters (Bath), B Possetney (Northampton). Replacements: S Longstaff (Glasgow Caledonians), A Take (Edinburgh Reivers). G Armstrong (Newcastle Falcons): R Mahmerfight (Glasgow Caledonians), S Grimes (Glasgow Caledonians), P Barnell (London Scottish), S Brotherstone (Edinburgh Reivers). PORTUGAL: To be announced. Reference G Morandin (Italy).

priority will be to win."

SPORTING DIGEST Northamptonshire had offered Snape an improved contract. SHISHTELD SHIELD (Second day of four): Springer New South Walter 273 (S Lee 66; S Oktroyd 4-66): Western Australia 81 for 1. Hobarts Outerstand 212 (G Denton 4-65): Tasmala 47 for 1. Meilbourse: Victoria 373 for 5 dec (M T G Elifott 161.) L Amberger 80): South Australia 71 for 1. Fifa among AMERICAN FOOTBALL drugs ban dissenters

ALL OLYMPIC sports - except for football, tennis and cycling - agreed yesterday to a package of measures aimed at unifying the fight against drugs. International sports federations endorsed a single Olympic medical code that calls for a minimum two-year suspension for athletes found guilty of taking steroids and other serious performanceenhancing drugs. The sanction for a second offence would

be a life ban. The resolution says that any federations which fail to comply with the agreement could be dropped from the Olympics. Fifa, football's governing body, expressed reservations about the two-year penalty on grounds that certain banned drugs have no performanceenhancing benefits for footballers.

Fifa, the International Tennis Federation and the International Cycling Union all objected to the resolution.

The IOC president, Juan Antonio Samaranch, said he was confident the three federations would sign up to the agreement before the world anti-doping conference in Lau-

sanne in February. "These three federations have reservations but, after consulting with their governing bodies, I'm sure they will agree," Samaranch said. "I think all federations will remain on the Olympic programme. The policy of the IOC is not to threaten the federations."

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> HONG RONG OPER: Mea's singles, guarter-finals: P Gold Christensen (Den) bt 15aman (Malay) 10-15 15-6 15-3; Oten Gang (Ch) bt R Hashim (Malay) 5-15 15-3 15-7; R Sidek (Malay) bt J K Hadl (Indon) 15-11 15-6; B Santoso (Indon) bt R Agustinus (Indon) 15-115-10 Moment's singles, second round: J Meulendijles (Neth) bt K Morgan (Mal) 4-11 13-11 11-6. Charter-finals: Chartin (Den) bt Zhou MJ (Ch) 8-11 11-8 11-3; Ling Wan-ting (Ind) bt J Meulendijles (Meth) 11-4 11-7; L Djacksways (Indon') bt M Pedersen (Den) 7-11 11-8 11-3; Chan Yo-ling (Talw) bt K Ericsson (Swe) 11-8 11-13 11-4.

> BASEBALL
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> The general manager of a Japanese basebalt team jumped to his death from a high-rise apartment block in Okinawa yesterday after failing to sign an outstanding schoolboy, police said. Katsutoshi Miwata, 53, of the Japanese Padific League club Orix BlueWave, had been unable to persuade the 18-year-old pitcher Nagisa Arakaki, the team's No 1 draft pick, to sign from Okinawa's Suisan High School.

CRICKET Gloucestership have signed the Northamptonshire all-rounder Jeremy Snape on a three-year contract. Snape, 25, agreed the deal before flying out to South Africa this weekend for a spell of club cricket.

FOOTBALL FOOTBALL

England's Under-18 women have qualified for next year's quarter-finals of the European Championship after enjoying a 7-0 viczory over the Faroe Skands in their last Group Three qualifying match at Stoke City yesterday. A hat-trick from Wolverhampton Wanderers' Rachel Unitr (47th, 72nd and 92nd minutes) was the highlight of England's polished performance against their weakest group opponents.

Ajoint four-nation Nordic bid to host

A joint four-nation Nordic bid to host Ajoint four-nation Nordic bid to host the European Championship finals in 2008 is to be considered, Lars Berendt, a spokesman for the Danish federation, sald yesterday. A possible joint-bid from Sweden, who hosted the championships in 1992, Norway, Finland and Denmark will be on the agenda when the presidents and general secretaries of the four nations meet in Copenhagen on Monday.

Monday.

Dr Richard Steadman, the surgeon who operated on Alessandro Del Piero's knee, said the surgery was a success and the Juventus and Italy striker should be playing again within six to eight months. The surgery on ligaments in Del Piero's left knee was performed at the Steadman Hawkins clinic in Vail, Col-

South Korea, the World Cup hosts, aim to finish the construction of 10 new stadia for the 2002 finals, which they are sharing with Japan, by the end of 2001, Shin Nak-Kyun, the Cul-ture and Tourism Minister, said in

Pastponnel Hurkers V Advances (Interlogged pitch).
THURSDAY'S LATE RESULTS: The Times FA Wouth Cup second round: Welling Utd 1 Barnet 2; Uncoin City O Scarborpe Utd 4. Harp Lager National Langue of Ireland Premier Division: Dundaik 2 St Patrick's Achietic 0.

GOLF

Corey Pavin, the former US Open chamoion who has not won a tournament in more than two years, yesterday broke the course record to take a three-stroke lead in the Australian Players Championship in Brisbane. Pavin. making a stunning railan Players Championship in Brisbane. Pavin, making a stunning return to form, shot a seven-under-par 66 at the Royal Queensland course to lead the field after two rounds on 135.

AUSTRALIAN PLAYERS CHAMPI-ONSHIP (Brisbane) Leading second-ment seven (Aust miles grand): 135 ONSTEP (Brisbane) Leading second-round scores (Aus unless stated): 135 C Pavia (US) 69 66. 138 T Demsey (US)

70.68; D.McKenzie 68.70, 139 L. Parsons 72.67; M. Long (NZ) 68.71; P. O'Malley 71.68, 146 S. Lasney 67.73; R. Pampiling 68.72, 141 J. Van de Velde (Fr) 70.71; R. Byrd (US) 71.70, 142.9 L. Danard 69.73; R. Russelt (GB) 74.68; G. OgBvy 72.70; D. Armstroney 71.71.

Rusself (GB) 74 68; G Ogbby 72 70; D Armstrong 71 71.

HONG KONNG OPEN Leading secondround scores: 133 A Wall (Eng) 68 65.
134 Hsleh Chin-sheng (Talw) 64 70. 138

M Brooks (US) 68 68; Wang Ter-chang
(Jake) 66 70. 137 Kei His Han (Burme)
69 68; D Fung (HH) 68 69; R Ponce [Ec]
67 70; P Friedlander (Swaz 70 67; B
Schadewiz; (HK) 66 71; S Rowe (HK) 70
67; C Williams (Eng) 68 69; Park Namsin (S Kor) 68 69, 138 T Purdy (US) 69
69; E Fryetz (Eng) 70 68; R Hotzable (US)
69 69; A Pics; US) 70 68; D Zarate (Phil)
71 67; July (US) 65 72; G Norquisz (US)
71 67; Selected: 139 D Frost (SA) 70
68, 141 C Rocca (IC) 72 69, 142 J M Olazabal (Sp) 71 71, 143 F Nobilo (NZ) 70
73.

CASSO WOORLD OPEN (Busseld, Japan)

Jabai (Sp) 71 71. 143 F NObio (NZ) 70 73.
CASIO WORKLO OPEN (Russaki, Japan) Leading second-round scores (Japan) maless statedly: 1.87 H Brido 68 69, 338.
T Izawa 69 69; N Ozaki 67 71, 139 B Watts (US) 69 70; N Yuhara 69 70; P Stantowski (US) 68 71, 140 M Osanai 68 72, 141 T Yoneyam 74 67; S Maruyama 71 70; H Sato 71 70; K Temori 71 70; T Hamilton (US) 70 71; Y Kanelo 69 72, 142 H Miyase 73 69; T Nakajima 72 70; E Herrera (Colombia) 71 71, 148 T Taniguchi 75 68; Zhang Llanwel (Ch) 71 72; M Ozald 70 73; Yeh Chang-ding (Galw) 73 74; Salactad (146 R Goosen (SA) 73 73, 147 F Funk (US) 71 76. Milased Cast 146 M Gronberg (Swe) 77 72, 150 M A Jimenez (Sp) 73 77.

ICE HOCKEY NHL: Ottawa 4 NY Islanders 1; Pho 3 New Jersey 2,

ICE SKATING

placings; 2 V Volchikova (Rus) 2.0; 3 S Hughes (US) 2.2; 4 i NBioliaeva (Rus) 3.6; 3 S Meler (Swit) 5.2; 6 C Gidte (Ger) 5.8; 7 S Woydala (Pol) 6.2; 8 S Ng (US) 7.2; 9 C Doyle (US) 7.4; 10 C Shina (Jacan) 8.6; 11 J Sebastyen (Hun) 9.0; 12 E Kertunen (Rn) 9.2; 13 M Klerkgaard (Den) 9.6; 14 A Lundstroem (Swer) 10.8; 15 C Miro (Fr) 13.0; 16 Y Onda (Japan) 13.2; 17 K Hanevold (Nor) 13.4; 18 G Juffen (Fr) 14.8; 19 M Laurier (Can) 15.2; 20 Yes-8 Shin (Kor) 16.2; 21 E Angerer (Aut) 18.2; 22 A Dyrttova (Cz Rep) 18.6; 23 I Hegel (Croa) 18.8; 24 15 Saiger (Sloven) 19.2.

RUGBY UNION Jim Williams, the Australian Capital Territory forward, was yesterday named to replace David Campese, who has retired, as capitaln of the with his returned, as capitall of or the Australian seven-a-side team for the Dubal tournament next week. AUSTRALIA SOUAD: J Williams (capt). C Pither, I Fenolden, J Isancs, T Mandru-slat, D McInally, M Societolina, M Syles, A Williett. S Divine.

SNOOKER LIVERPOOL VICTORIA IX CHAMP-IONSHIP (Bournemouth) Quarter-flanks: P Hunter (Eng) bt S Davis (Eng) 9-4: M Stevens (Mail) bt M Couch (Eng) 9-5.

WOMER'S MONTE CARLO CLASSIC (Monaco) Charter-Tradis: 5 Schöne (Ger) br V Addisson (Neth) 9-3 10-9 2-9 9-2: F Geaves (Eng) bt R Grimham (Aus) 9-0 9-2 3-0: J Thacker (Eng) bt M Balz-ley (Can) 9-6 9-6 7-9 10-9; S Wright (Eng) bt J Tranfield (Eng) 9-6 9-7 9-2.

VOLLEYBALL The 2002 world championships will move back to South America, with the men's event in Argentina and the women in Brazil.

TODAY'S NUMBER 4m

The number of Swiss francs (£1.6m) for which cyclist Mauro Gianetti is suing two doctors for claiming that he collapsed and nearly died after taking PFC, a substance that speeds up oxygen intake.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

There's not much chance of me being a page three girl, maybe a page eight. I can't be a pin-up cause I've got no tits. But just because you are a boxer and a woman doesn't mean you are a monster with two heads.

Jane Couch, after winning Britain's first women's professional boxing match.

If women want to put on make-up or dance around their handbags, they should be able to. But they should be free to box too. Couch.

If they want to go and get someone better for this iob, then let them. Roy Hodgson, Blackburn Rovers manager, before losing to Southampton and being sacked the next day.

Wake up England – Italy is not dead. Our place is in the Five Nations. Massimo Giovanelli, Italy's RU captain, after losing 23-15 to England.

People expect that be-

cause I can spin a cricket ball, I know who will win next year's AFL pennant, who'll win next year's Melbourne Cup and what the solutions to the Middle East and Indonesian crises are. It's a shallow world's wholly warped sense of priorities and it's very depressing.

Shane Warne.

WIN A DAY OUT AT TWICKENHAM FOR **ENGLAND** v **SOUTH AFRICA**

England take on South Africa at Twickenham on Saturday 5 December in the Invested International. the showpiece event of the South Africans' one month tour. England will be eager to avenge the II-29 defeat at Twickenham last year and the I8-0 loss in Cape Town in July. World Champions South Africa will be looking to re-write the record books by beating Ireland and England to accumulate IB successive Test victories.

The Independent has teamed up with invester, the specialist banking group, sponsor of the Invested International to offer the readers the chance to win one of two pairs of match tickets with full hospitality which includes a three course lunch and post match tea.

All you have to do is to dial the number below, answer the following question on the line and leave your name and full address and a daytime contact number:

Q: Which team currently holds the record for the most consecutive Test victories, with 17 between 1965-1970?

a) England b) Australia c) New Zealand

Call 0906 470 0923

Vinners will be picked at random after lines close at midnight on Saturday 28 November 1998. There are no alternative prizes or cash substitutes. Normal Independent rules apply. The Editor's decision is final.

Clubs for sil

Bowlers just love swinging at the WACA

OF ALL the places in Australia, Perth is the one for swingers, and most of Australia's finest honed their art in the world's remotest city. Dennis Lillee, Terry Alderman, Bob Massie, Graham McKenzie and Bruce Reid all learnt to hoop the ball at their home ground, the WACA skills that gave sterling

service to their country. Like most things here, the prevailing wind shaped their destiny and swing came by necessity rather than invention. Of the four, Massie and Alderman were the specialists easily recognisable by the permanent grimaces and high foreheads from bowling into the Doctor - while Lillee and Reid, their extra pace an added weapon, dabbled downwind.

Massie had that purple day

at Lord's in 1972, where he took and it will be interesting to see 16 wickets against England in which one of them conjures up

Ijaz hits back after Streak's landmark

first Zimbabwe bowler to take a mistimed pull brought an end 100 Test wickets as Ijaz to Ijaz's entertaining innings. Ahmad's 87 and an unbeaten 74 by Yousuf Youhana helped Pakistan reach 272 for 6 on the first day of the first Test in Peshawar vesterday.

Streak reached his century in his 25th Test when he had Azhar Mahmood caught behind by Andy Flower for 11.

Ijaz's belligerent knock off 128 balls included 13 boundaries and a six while Yousuf amassed a sedate, Test-best 74 before fading light stopped play with four overs remaining.

The two batsmen shared a 118-run fourth-wicket stand to

BY DEREK PRINCLE

in Perth

a peerless display of swing bowling. If he petered out after that, his successor Alderman proved a constant during his career, twice taking 40 wickets or more in Test series against England

Swing is an elusive skill and the minutest change in technique can sometimes cause it to disappear. It can be a frustrating occupation with the ball moving in can-opening curves one moment, then failing to move off the straight the

Considering that Dominic Cork and Damien Fleming are both reputable swing bowlers, there has been little movement. to date. Perth may change that

HEATH STREAK became the lift Pakistan from 92 for 3 before

First day, Zimbabwe won toss PAKISTAN – First landings

Total (for 6) 2772
Fall: 1-45 2-56 3-92 4-210 5-233 6-268.
To bat: Wagar Younis, Agib Joved, Mush-Bowling: Streek 19-1-78-1; Olorga 14-2-43-1 (mb3); Johnson 18-2-76-1 (nb7); Mbangwa 23-9-40-3; Whittal 5-0-30-0. ZIMEARME: "A D R Campbell, G W Flower, N C Johnson, M W Goodwin, tA Flower, C B Wishart, H H Streak, M Managwa, H K Otonga, G J Rennie, A R

Umphres: Athar Zaidi (Pak) and G Sharp (Eng).

the most threat while bowling into the breeze in the second Test, which started here early In keeping with most artisans who tend to blame their

conspiracy currently doing the rounds. For once, there may something in this. Unlike their English counterparts, the seam on a Kookaburra ball is machine stitched rather than sewn by hand. For that reason it sits almost flush with the surface of the ball. Certainly there is negligible prominence after 25

overs, which is why Angus Fraser was dropped in favour

tooks the Kookaburra balls have

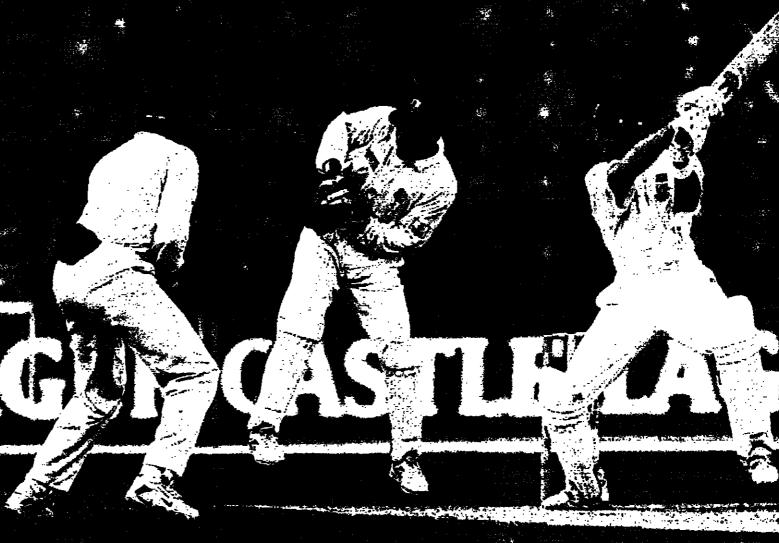
been cited as the main culprit.

This is the latest lack-of-swing

of those leaning towards pace Theories abound over what makes a ball curve in the air. Some say humidity helps, others that one side needs to be polished. If we are talking conventional rather than reverse swing, the seam, particularly its stability and angle in flight, is

the vital ingredient. For starters, it trips the boundary layer of air that passes over the ball in flight and creates drag. If prominent enough it also acts as a rudder which stabilises the ball. This is why the new Kookaburra, its seam still proud, tends to swing more than the old ball.

Perth may yet prove the theory wrong but swing bowlers really need to take the new ball in order to give themselves the best chance of making the batsmen look a charlie. If the "Doctor" is about and Cork and Fleming find their rhythm, the swingers could be as important as the fast men in testing the batsmen's mettle.



South Africa's Jacques Kallis plays the ball past the West Indies' wicketkeeper Ridley Jacobs and Philo Wallace in Johannesburg yesterday AP

Walsh puts tourists back on an even keel

ONCE AGAIN inspired by the in- BY TONY COZIER domitable Courtney Walsh, the West Indies regained a position of parity on the second day of the first Test against South Africa at the Wanderers yes-

Defending an unsatisfactory total of 261 on a true pitch with a bowling staff diminished by the absence of the injured Carl Hooper, they limited South Africa to 217 for 6 when play was halted, for the second and final

time, by murky light. The second of Walsh's four wickets superceded the watching coach Malcolm Marshall's West Indies Test record of 376 wickets in his 103rd Test and

in Johannesburg

either the 28-degree heat or the tendinitis in his right knee.

The reassuring presence of captain Hansie Cronje, unbeaten on 39, the most proficient lower order in the contemporary game and foot-weary opposition bowlers is counterbalanced for the home team by the prospect of batting last on a dry pitch on which the cracks are widening by the hour.

Walsh's performance was preceded by an opening halfhour of uncompromising pace and hostility from Shaun Pollock and Alian Donald that the ageless campaigner kept quickly dispatched the last

Pollock inflicted a resounding blow to the helmet of Nixon McLean before claiming him to a keeper's catch next ball. He similarly accounted for Curtiv Ambrose for figures of 5 for 54.

Walsh struck back immedi-

ately, in his second over, with as unplayable a ball as he would have ever bowled. Angled in to Adam Bacher, it cut away on pitching to find a probing edge on its way to the keeper. The West Indies had to wait

another 33 overs for Walsh to intervene again with his recordbreaking wicket, soon followed by another, both to outstanding

Jacques Kallis was snared and a half hours over 62, and inches from the grass and to his Jonty Rhodes, crease-bound going for 19.4 overs, oblivious to three West Indies wickets. right by Stuart Williams at and low for 17.

Walsh was not through with second slip after an enterprishis day's work, returning to clip ing 53 and a partnership of 92 the off-bail as an uncertain Polwith the opener, Gary Kirsten. Daryll Cullinan was taken far lock missed a wild pull. Second day, Here bidge was down the leg-side by the tumbling wicketkeeper Ridley Ja-

cobs, who made his Test debut yesterday on his 31st birthday. With Walsh resting and Am-Tatal (37 popul) Fedi (cont): 8-255 9-255 Boundagi Donald 23-4-91-1, Prácek 23-4-5, Kata (5-5-37-1; lectrugge 10-5-32-1, C je 1-0-3-0 Symcox 19-5-37-0. brose's rhythm affected by a succession of no-balls, Brian Lara resorted to McLean, fast but inconsistent in direction, and Rawi Lewis, whose leg-spin was steady but unsided by the pitch. In his best spell after tea, McLean accounted for Kirsten.



*THE INDEPENDENT THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY



who dragged one back into his

stumps after spendir g three

WIN AN EVENING WITH SOME OF TRIP TO THE SYDNEY 2000 OLYMPI

The Independent and the Australian Tourist Commission together with Sportsworld, Quantas Airlines and the British Olympic Association have teamed up to offer one lucky reader and a friend or partner the chance not only to dine with some of Britains most famous sporting heroes at the Sports Writers Dinner at the London Hilton on Monday 14th December, but also the opportunity to to fly to Sydney and visit the 2000 Olympic Games.

The 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney are set to generate unprecedented levels of interest, as the world's greatest athletes congregate for the Millennium Games, against the wonderful backdrop of Sydney and the delights of Australia. Almost more than anything else, Australians are famous for their obsession with sport. The continent has established its reputation as a leading sporting nation.its little wonder therefore that Australia is host to some of the world's most prestigious sporting events. So with the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games around the corner, there's never been a better time to head Down Under. Quantas have kindly provided the winner with two return tickets to Sydney. Quantas are Australia's international airline and have, for nearly 80 years, been at the forefront of providing new and better ways to take you safely and comfortably to your destination.

The Independent have selected 6 sporting personalities from those previously honoured over the past 50 years - all you have to do is to vote for one of the athletes who in your opinion has contributed the most to their sport. Phone the number opposite the name listed below and tell us on the line the reason for your selection and leave your name, full address and a daytime telephone number. You could be the lucky winner who receives a pair of tickets to the Sports Writers Dinner and your trip to the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, courtesy of Sportsworld, who are providing the five day stay in Sydney, which includes a visit to a track event and a field event at the Millennium Olympics.

The Independent selections are as follows:

- I) SIR BOBBY CHARLTON:
- 2) LINFORD CHRISTIE:
- 3) SEBASTIAN COE:
- 4) MARY RAND:
- 6) VIRGINIA WADE:
- 5) STEVE REDGRAVE:
- Key member of England's 1966 World Cup-winning team who has become a great sports ambassador.
- Britain's greatest ever sprinter. He won world, European and Olympic titles.
- Record-breaking middle-distance runner who won gold at 1980 and 1984 Olympics.
- Won gold in the long jump, silver in the pentathlon and bronze in the relay in the Tokyo Olympics of 1964. Has won 4 Olympic rowing gold medals. Who would bet against number five in Sydney.
- Won Wimbledon in the Queen's Silver Jubilee year 1977 to take a place in tennis folklore.

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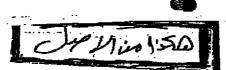


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anyonus sporting have kindly er of providing

CLUBS OUTSIDE Super League will compete in one division next season. following a late about-turn yesterday. The First and Second Division

Association had adopted a complex structure, under which 12 First Division clubs played each other home and away and also met Second Division sides away.

However, that format proved the most short-lived of all the game's attempts to get it right in the lower divisions when it was scrapped at a meeting in Dewsbury without ever eing put into operation.

Now the 18 FASDA sides will play in a single division, meeting each other twice, except for three opponents that each will only play at ome and three away, producing a 28-game season.

There will still be a differential in the pay-outs of FASDA's money from Sky, with former First Division clubs getting £325,000 per season and those from the Second £165,000.

A three-man British delegation to the meeting of the game's inter-national federation in Sydney next week hopes to return with an agreement for a four-team tournament down under next year and a 14 or 16-nation World Cup in Britain in

The Rugby League's chief exec-utive, Neil Tunnicliffe, who will attend the meeting along with the RFL several hundred thouse chairman, Sir Rodney Walker, and its in unpaid transfer fees.

By DAVE HADFIELD

performance director, Joe Lydon. wants the winners of the Pacific Cup to play Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand next autumn. The British delegation will also

be seeking approval for the four home nations to compete as separate entities in the World Cup. Tunnicliffe admits that splitting resources between England Wales, Scotland and Ireland would lengthen the odds against a British victory in the tournament, but argues that the development benefits justify the strategy.

Under that blueprint, there would be one home country in each group. That format would open up the possibility of funding from the English Sports Council, to whom the League has applied for support under its World Class Performance

Britain will also be urging the game to adopt - and stick to - a calendar of tours and international games for the next few years.

Also on the agenda will be areas of disagreement between member countries, such as the international substitution rules and a claim by New Zealand that they are owed "several hundred thousand dollars"

Russian flies high on his way to skating gold



The Russian ice skater Ilia Klimkin in full flight performing one of the jumps that impressed the judges during his free programme and enabled him to become champion at the world junior figure skating championships in Zagreb, Croatia, on Thursday night. Another Russian, Daria Timoshenko, was hoping to make it a double as she led a 1-2 for her country in the women's event after the short programme. In second place was Viktoria Volchkova

AP

leader Wall

A "BORING" one-over-par 72 by

John Daly left him trailing Anthony

Wall of England by five shots at yes-

surprise

Kerly plots Southgate's downfall Daly trails Rhodes aware of his

SEAN KERLY, 10 years on from his triumphs at the Seoul Olympics in 1988, returns tomorrow to his old hunting ground at Southgate. This time, though he is back as playermanager of the current EHL Pregate in second place.

ing line-up these days, said yester- pitch at Southgate to present any field clicks, as it did last week when day: "We have no injury problems and are at full strength." Asked if he would be playing, he said: "I am cerbut I am always ready and able to practice before the game to adjust match, also have a Kent Cup game Hawks on 4 October.

BY BILL COLWILL

very big game and our focus will be sey in their squad at the expense of mier leaders, Canterbury, in a taking the points on Sunday, not just the Atlanta Olympian Soma Singh.

The goal-scoring hero of Seoul did ting enough pictor problems. "Most of the guys have they defeated Reading 4-1. Canterbury, who are also

to the speed. I certainly will look forvard to playing on it." Southgate have no injury prob-

lems but have decided to include forgive my boys a bit of a rest. It is a mer Canterbury defender Paul Live-Kerly, who is seldom in the start- not expect the new water-based for a busy afternoon if the Kent mi

> Canterbury, who are also taking ly be different to ours and it will take a development squad for a second

the same afternoon. Slough against Doncaster, a women's EHL Premier game at 11.30am, will be the curtain Over in south London, the neigh

bouring rivals Hounslow and Ted dington play at Chiswick in a crucial me near the bottom of the table, dee little further south the First Indian Gymkhana who will be able to include Gursharaniit Soor in their line up. Soor had his appeal upheld against his 60-day ban in respect of the red card given to him during tainly no longer a frontline boy now a little time to adjust to it. We will game with Southgate after the big Gymkhana's game with Oxford

parring the remainder for a tworound total of four-under 138. The 25-year-old Wall, who finished the front on 133 after the first-round leader. Hsieh Chin-sheng of Taiwan. dropped three strokes on the final three holes for a 70.

> "I am a bit surprised to be in the lead," said Wall, who had three top 10 finishes on the 1998 European Tour. "I played really well today and hit every fairway and every green."

> Wall leads Hsieh by a stroke and is three ahead of Mark Brooks and Taiwan's Wang Ter-chang.

Tiger Woods had four straight bogeys in the second round of the Casio World Open in Ibusuki, Japan, yesterday to lose touch at halfway. Woods shot a two-over-par 74 to be six strokes behind the leader. Hidemichi Tanakag.

greater responsibilities

RYAN RHODES recently made the transition from Spice Boy to family man - and the extra responsibilities have changed him.

So much so that the former British light-middleweight champion may replace his 'Spice Boy' trunks with less eye-catching garb against Mexico's Fidel Avandano - a re-Kong Open. Daly had two bogeys and placement for original opponent a birdie in the first five holes before Manuel Esparza - at Sheffield's Hillsborough Leisure Centre tonight.

Rhodes, 22, is the proud father of one-month-old daughter Ellie and, 90th on this year's European Tour, just like Naseem Hamed, he has beshot a six-under-par 65. He moved to | come focused on the demanding aspects of life outside of the ring. "I'm fighting for my family now.

When a baby comes along you realise your responsibilities. It's amazing how that changes you," said Rhodes before the first defence of his World Boxing Organisation Inter-Contineutal middleweight title. "Everything I do is for Danielle and Ellie. I just want to win a world title for Ellie.

"It should be a harder fight than Esparza, but that's good news because I'm ready for anybody. When I get to the top I don't want people saying I dodged the best opposition

in order to get there." The promoter Frank Warren said that victory would secure Rhodes the No 1 place in the WBO ratings, and

Grant. He was recently stopped by the World Boxing Council lightarguably the world's best pound-for pound fighter.

Rhodes came back from last December's first career loss to Szabo in the eighth round to win the

champion Sammy Fuentes, the

quality opponents have come early. so Rhodes may go all out for a quick finish. It seems more likely. though, that Rhodes may have to go the full 12 rounds to keep his title.

Huggins hopeful of plundering Spain

ENCOURAGED BY England's victory over Denmark, Roger Huggins believes Spain can be beaten today in Leon. The 87-70 win against the Danes in Birmingham on Wednesday was England's most impressive of European Championship qualifying, fuelling hopes they can reach the finals in Paris next summer.

England trail the unbeaten Spaniards, who finished fifth in last summer's World Championships in Athens, and second-placed Israel in

BASKETBALL

By JEFF TAYLOR

Group C. The four third-placed teams with the best records in the five groups qualify for France. "It's going to be tough, but we can

go in there and get a result," said Huggins, "You stay in the game, you play tough and you never know what can happen. We can stick around and maybe get a win."

Huggins, who put in a solid per- guys, and most of all I like being part formance up front on Wednesday with 15 points and seven rebounds. just as importantly provided a spark in defence, coming up with six

"Twe been struggling with this national team of late because I tend to sit back and watch the other people do a lot of the work," Huggins said. "Against Denmark I figured I'd take my shots if I got them, run the floor, rebound. I enjoy banging with the big

of a team that likes to work." Any hopes England have of shutting down Spain depend on Steve

Hansell and Ray Carter slowing down Morgado de la Fuente, Nacho Rodrigues and Gordo Corrales depending on whom coach Lolo Sainz chooses to play point guard.

The other key will be Bucknall's ability to guard Real Madrid's Alberto Herreros, who hurt England with 20 points in Plymouth.

NEWCASTLE

12.30 Panama House 1.00 Queensway 1.30 Formidable Partner 2.00 Forestal 2.30 Bellator 3.00 Noosa Sound 3.30 Toshiba Talk

GOING: Good (Good to Soft in places).

If Left-hand, onel course; with rising run-in; tough, gelcoing track.

Course is on A1, 5m N of town. Mistro service to Four Lane Ends station from Newcestle railway station. Bus service from there. ADARSSION:
Club C15; Tattereals C10; Silver Ring £4 (£2 less in each anciosure for
CAPs and registered disabled, CAR PARK: Free.

If LEADING TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley 43-178 (242%), J H Johnson
72-118 (102%), M W Easterby 11-58 (162%), J M Jeffenson 10-46 (217%).

ILEADING JOCKEYS: P Niven 42-59 (202%), R Garritry 17-60 (85%),
A Dobbin 16-115 (103%), B Sioney 14-139 (101%), P Carberry 12-51 (235%).

IF AVOURTIES: 143-326 (435%).

LONG DISTANCE RUNNER: Bellistor (230) has been sent 305 miles.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None. 12.30 NEWCASTLE BUILDING SOCIETY HURDLE (CLASS D) 23,750 added 3YO 2m

PANAMA HOUSE (11) (D) T Easterby 11 3 _O McPhail (5) CAPTAIN BRADY (14) J Golde 10 12 ______ CULTURED KING (F80) M W Essisty 10 12 _____ 3 DANGERMAN (11) MW Elessorby 10 12..... 6 DISCO TEX (11) M W Essistry 10 2 Mr K R O'Rigues (7)
PROFILER (USA) (FBB) Mrs V Ward 10 12 R Thornton

BETTING: 6-4 Paname House, 4-1 Stutten, 5-1 Dangerman, 6-1 Profiler, 10-1 Saletan, FORM VERDICT

This looks an interesting event with Wetherby winner PANAMA HOUSE taking on two potentially useful newcorners in Bhutan and Profiler. The experience of Panama House could prove declaive, and he is fancied to give the weight away.

1.00 GUINNESS NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) 25,000 added 2m 110yds

FORM VERDICT Although Inn At The Top has the best hurding form, and ran well on his chase debut at Ayr, he has no easy task giving so much weight to the two four-year-olds. Over the years BARNESURGH BOY has been one to oppose, for he has just one win to his credit, but he jumps hurdes quite well, and he could be worth taking a chance with on

NORTHGATE TRUCK RENTAL NOVICE

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3422 FORMINISELE PRINTING (15) Min V Mind 5 10 2.

- 12 declared --BETTING: 7-2 Veligen, 5-1 Sir Bob, 6-1 Nir Mehdio, 7-1 Setting Stin, 8-1 Actus, FORM VERDICT

SIR BOB, who showed promise in nonce events two seasons ago, ran well enough after a long break at Ayr on his reoppearance to suggest he can with a race the tris. Veligen and his hishido, first and second at Sedgefield last week, and the hardes newcomer Actazo

2.00 DOUGLAS SMITH MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2m 4f

FORM VERDICT CLITHILL HOPE is worth another chance after putting in an undistractifically moderate display last time. He doesn't have many miles on the clock and is interesting against rivels who, while well treet-ed, are unlikely to have everything in their fevour today. 2.30 NEWCASTLE BUILDING SOCIETY FIGHTING FIFTH' HURDLE (Grade 2) (A) £35,000 2m

-6 opcured -BETTING: 7-4 French Holly, 2-1 Dato Star, 5-1 Saltator, City Holl, 14-1 Midright

FORM VERDICT

This looks a rest puzzier because so much depends on the weath-er, if it rains and rains then Dato Star would have an outstanding et it it ruses in least that the would have an outstanding chance, but as he has shown in the past, he is vulnerable over 2m on good going. Rain will also suit Bellistor, but he still has planty to prove, it is hard to ignore the moderable respectance run of Frederich Holly, whose stable is still not in the best of form, so the choice is CITY HALL, who kept on improving lest sesson, acts on any ground, has won when making his own running and receives a useful bibs from the tot less.

3.00 JASMOR RENTA-CAR HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m 6f 3U2-P1 PUREVALUE (15) (C) M W Easterby 7 11 10

1-196P CATS FEIN 655 JUDGO 10 11 6.d Supple B 3872-1 MOOSA SOUND (18) L Lungo 8 10 13 ______ 29F-4 SRERIC (30) S Ball 8 10 9 ______ - 6 dec BETTBIG: 6-4 Purposius, 2-1 Noose Sound, 6-1 Cate Run, 13-2 Streic, 14-1 Apach

FORM VERDICT NOOSA SOUND looks tailor-made for ordinary staying chases and on all known evidence, should appreciate this extra distance Purevalue is well treated still but is not such a certain stayer.

3.35 STANLEY RACING AMATEUR HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) 23,750 added 2m

D&POP SON OF TEMPO (7) Mrs K Lamb 9 100...

BETTENG: 7-2 Executive Design, 4-1 Gospel Bong, 5-1 Key Grip, 11-2 Rossel, Toehibe Talk, 10-1 Shining Edga, Eponina, 12-1 others

FORM VÉRDIÇT KEY GRIP is a potential improver, more so than most of his make. Eponline is one to lowp an eye on but lack of a recent run is a big drawback.

a second shot at Canada's Otis

Going: Good

1.00: (3m HDyds novice hurdle) 1. HOT TO TROTN Williamson 5-1 2. Door To DoorG Bradley 4-5 tev 3. Alighty PhantomJ Oeborne 16-1 Alen: 5-1 Dalcassian King (4th), 8-1 Luggay (8th), 18-1 Jabiru (8th), 33-1 Exact, 68-1 Mister River, 100-1 Parata Minstrel. 9 ran. 18, 10, 14, 20, 20 (K Balley, Upper Lamourn). Tota: £520; £180, £190, £250, DF:

1.30: (3m novice chase) 2860 DF: 2270 CSF: 21057.

2.00: (2m 4f handicap chase) 1. STORMY PASSAGE....A Thornton 9-2 2. Mr Strong GaleT J Murphy 2-1 fev 3. Jibber The Kibber ____D Leafer 13-2 Also: 6-1 Callisce Bay (5th), 6-1 Colone in Chief. 10-1 Senor El Betrusti, 14-1 Philips Woody (4th), 15-1 Stately Home (8th), 8 ran, 3, 13, 13, 31/4, sh-hd. (P Hobba, Minehead). Tota: £580; £170, £160, £150, DF.

quest (4th), 20-1 Denegoid, 25-1 Shoofk, 33-1 Denoing Paddy (6th), Sound Appeal, 9 rad, 1/4, 5, 11/4, 11, 6 (J. Fenshawa, New market). Total: £190; £130, £170, £150. DF: £590. CSF: £507, Tricast: £2546. Non Run-3,00; @m & conditional novice tricap hurdin

Fiscot, 12-1 Stray Harmony, 20-1 Laugh-ing Fontaine (5th), 33-1 Paward, 50-1 Lane Street Blues, 66-1 Sovereign (6th). 10 ran. Nk, B, 18, 15, 14 (Mas Venetia Williams, Hereford), Yote: \$450; £150, £130, £110, DF: £710, CSF: £7582, Tricast: £2751. RACING RESULTS

BANGOR Going: Soft (Good to Soft in places)

1.20: 1. PRUSSIA (S Wynne) 4-1; 2. Bar-ley Meadow 5-1; 3. Absolute Proof 11-2. 11 ran. 5-2 fav Megis Memory (4th). 3, 8, (W Cley, Fullord). Tota: £380; £150, £180, (W Cay, Pubmin, 1608: 1380; 1150, 1180, 1180, 1180, 1180; 11

2.20.1. RISEM AL HABREES (S Wynns) 5-1;
2. Distinct Storm 13-2; 3. Northern Maestro 15-8 law 9 ran. 1, ½. (D NoCoin, Cholmondeley). Tota: £3.30; £170; £230; £120.
DF: £2120 CSF: £5508 Tricast: £2854.
2.50: 1. WELSH MARCH (8 Harding) 13-5 fax; 2. Cherolice Chief 7-4; 3. Sister Rossa B-1 8 ran. 5. 2½. (6 Moors, Michelem) The 2721 Flad (1518 DE: 280) CSF. ham). Total: \$250; £140, £150, DF: £280, CSF:

3.20: 1. TREMALLT (T Jenis) 100-30; 2. Od 32ct 1. Ne-mail (1 (1009) 100-3); 2 Ost By Night 2-1 (se; 3. Murray's Million B-1 6 ran. 21,8 (T George, Stroud) Tote: 0380, 52.20, 0180. DF: 53.50 CSF: 5931 3.80: 1. POWDER MOUND (R Waldey) 100-30; 2. Professor Coel 3-1; 3. Ginetal Missile 14-1 12 mm, 9-4 for Percy Pertusper 1, 5. (fan Williams, Alvachurch), Tote: \$350, \$180, \$190, \$360, DF: \$530, \$3F: \$1228. 12 20 Quedoot: 2570. Place & \$355 Place 5: \$355

> LINGFIELD Going: Standard

12.10: 1. RITUAL (P Dos) 6-4 tor, 2. Sezona Boulevard 13-5; 3. Rushed 12-1.9 ran, 11/s. 14. (S Dow). Tota: £2.80; £1.20, £1.30, £3.00 DP: £1.70, CSF: £3.60,

Grant to stop Hungary's Lorent Inter-Continental title in July. "I'm more hungry than ever for

success." Rhodes said. "I learned a lot from the Grant fight. Getting beat

did me a lot of good." Avandano's ambitions of winning a senior world title may be over at the age of 27, after a 57-fight tally, though he has lost only to some of

the best. Last March, Avandano went the distance with America's 1996 Olympic gold medallist, David He has also tackled the WBO

classy American Roger Mayweather and the International Boxing Federation light-middle holder Yori Boy Campos. His defeats against the higher

> 2. Ikram Boy 9-1, 3. I Can't Remember 9 4 g tim. 14 ran. 94 jt fav Pegasus Bey () 2½, ¼, (R OSulivan) Tota: \$3130: \$420. \$250, \$140 DF: \$8510 CSF: \$22415 1.10: 1. WAIKIKI BEACH (Candy Morns) 8-1; 2. Roderick Hudson 5-1; 3. Dionys 25-1, 12 ran. 13-8 fer Present Stusion 5.

nk. (G L Moore) Tota: \$340; \$150; \$150; \$150 DF: \$3200 CSF: \$3494 NR: Taul Of Silver 1.40; 1. TIGER SHARK (Dean McKeown) 5-2; 2. Tapage 11-8 tay, 3. Daumind 6-1, 6 ram, 2%, 1%, (Lord Huntingdon). Tota: £280; £10; £180 DF: £230 CSF; £566 NR. 2.10: 1. BUONA SERA (T Sprake) 9-2, 2. Violet 12-1; 3. Magique Elolie 33-1 15 ren. 4-1 tev Achiles Star (4th). 1 . nk (W Mur). Tota: £480; £160, £350, £370 DF, £2440. CSF: \$5080 Treast: \$149739

2.40: 1. SOAKED (A Cultura) 5-1; 2. Eli-way Prince 9-1; 3. Thats Life 33-1. 13 ran. 7-2 few Sihari. 1 1/h. (D Chepman). Total: £5.50, \$290,\$320,\$490 DF,\$4030 CSF,\$4305 Thosas: £1283.28 NR: Facile Tigns. 3.10: 1. TUMBLEWEED HERO (M Tabbutt) 45 ter; 2. Rainstonn 14-1; 3. Dancing Wot 5-1 8 ran. 3, 17/4 (B Meehan). Tota: £170; 210, 5240, 2130 DF: 5820, CSF: 57229 3.40: 1. WAASEF (P Fredericks) 9-4 fav; 2. Sapphire Son 33-1, 3. Ginzbourg 11-2. 15 ran. 21/s, sh-hd. (Mass Gay Kelleway). Total; 2390; 5170; 52260; 5280; DF: \$1680; CSF: \$10658 Tricket, \$37522, NR Prix De Cler-

Piace 8: £15201 Place 5: £12747.

*THE INDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES 0891 261 LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS 971 981 HAYDOCK 972 982 NEWCASTLE 973 983 WARWICK 974 984 ALL COURSES RESULTS 0891 261 970

Hennessy Gold Cup: An emotional success may be denied by a trainer who has thrived through his own lean times

Osborne puts the darkness to flight

Looking back in anger but now with a renewed enthusiasm for life a rider who has endured a year of agony has an opportunity to secure one of steeplechasing's greatest prizes. By Richard Edmondson

THE GOING will not be soft for the reaction of people who I this afternoon's Hennessy Gold Cup at Newbury but that will change if Jamie Osborne and Coome Hill come up the run-in

Osborne cried when the old horse carried him to success on his comeback ride at Ascot four weeks ago. It snipped the jockey away from the blackest 12 months of his life.

A racecourse accident had all but crippled him and a police investigation suggested he was a bent jockey. In his bleakest moments. Jamie Osborne temporarily retired from racing.

However, those tears were not essentially for himself, but rather for two close friends taken from us at a puzzlingly The previous occasion on

which Osborne broke down was probably when the midwife sent his bottom quivering. The occurrence, it seems, may be getting rather more regular. "I actually went up the Ascot runin in tears," he says. "As I landed over the last and I realised I wasn't going to get beat I just burst into tears. Big, hard jumps jockey becomes big wuss. And I couldn't guarantee not crying again on Saturday."

There has not been much reason for Jamie Osborne to wail before in his 31 years. His mother did not spawn a daft lad. and the boy was a riding artiste from early on. He developed into one of the most fluent and stylish members of the weighing room.

On 16 November last year, however, the Gatling gun of misfortune started rolling its barrel. That day Osborne was fired into the Cheltenham turf, a meeting of bone and earth which fractured his wrist in 15 places and punctured several vital nerves. As Osborne inspected this dreadful mess be observed that his left hand might have fallen off if skin was not attaching it to his arm.

Two ribbons of scar tissue bear testament to the many entry points surgeons have made. Yet it was not the bones snapping like a cream cracker which proved the jockey's greatest physical problem. That dark beast came in the shape of a secondary disease. "I got this form of paralysis," Osborne says. "I got to the point where I was looking at my hand and telling it to move but it wouldn't. The nerves were overriding the messages from the brain. My hand went like a claw. There was this thing on the end of my arm.

"Because I was living with it every day I didn't realise how bad it was becoming. It was only

hadn't seen for a while, friends who stared at this shiny, funnycoloured claw, which made me realise how bad it was.

"I couldn't hold anything. The hand was useless. I went to Ireland to stay with a friend and we went for some lunch. I'd devised this method of slicing a steak by sticking a fork in the meat with my good hand, leaning on it with my chest, and then cutting with the knife. I'd been doing it for weeks and so it didn't seem odd to me. It did to everyone else though." Osborne began a course of injections to loosen his fingers.

By now, though, there was great pain also in Osborne's heart. His great friend, the budding trainer John Durkan, had been beaten by leukaemia. Osborne read a moving address at the funeral to mark JD's crossing over a portal. The following morning, at daybreak, there were visitors at another door, Osborne's. Officers investigating cor-

ruption in racing and the doping of horses staged a dawn raid in Upper Lambourn and took Osborne away. The jockey believes the only reason for his temporary incarceration was the fact that a horse he rode at Exeter in January 1997, Avanti Express, was found to have been doped. It was only last week, after almost 10 months on bail, that Osborne learned he had been dropped from enquiries. No charges were ever brought against him.

"I didn't believe this could happen to anyone," he says. "That seven policemen could break my door down, clean my house out, arrest me, throw me in a cell and then keep me on bail for nine months without a shred of evidence.

"They didn't rifle through my drawers, they actually took them away. They went from top to bottom through the whole house and took every scrap of paper. They cleaned the place out. They investigated my bank and I was accounts, my financial situation, all my telephone records. They went fishing and set about trying to find some evidence. They

Jamie Osborne's door may have been easy enough to repair, but the occupant himself found that he too was becoming unhinged by everything the fates were throwing at him. "The first few weeks after the arrest were very busy," he says. "I was very keen to find out what was going on. Why was I arrested? What had led to it? I got consumed by that and I con-

tinue to be consumed by it. "And the more consumed I



Osborne: I realised that the best way to put two fingers up to everybody was to get back riding'

got the less constructive I be-

minute of it. I hated being there. I went to Liverpool for think I'm

crooked'. "It was 'I couldn't stop a horse eating me from winning. My up big time driving force is to win. truly de-To think people thought pressed all of me as a cheat hurt' round that part of the

any exercise, I lost a lot of bit. I went home and told my weight and the bad thoughts parents that I couldn't get back. about my hand kept coming I felt that all I'd done for 15 back. I didn't want to see the years was try my arse off and people who had been part of my I'd never betrayed anyone. I'd life for years. I just couldn't be- done my best. lieve my life had become such

suddenly it seemed so far away,

came as a human being and the nism I had created, a bit like walking away from the whole completely from his life. less interest I had in racing. I when a girlfriend dumps you. didn't watch any racing and I It's a lot easier to be indifferent got to the stage where I didn't to her than to accept the fact emerged. "There was a turning even pick up a newspaper to see that, actually, you miss her point in the police investigation very much. I pretended there what was running. very much. I pretended there was more to my life than rac-

low point for me as I would have two days, but that was it. I just ridden Suny Bay [the eventual looked round and thought to second). He would have been myself 'half the people here my ride for the season. I was

> on television feeling completely empty and, you know, I couldn't

giving up a

"The whole buzz, the kick, the motivation was riding win-"Td forgotten all the reasons ners. I couldn't stop a horse Ascot was identified for Oswhy I enjoyed my job because from winning. I'm not there to borne's comeback. The jockey stop horses. My driving force is took a room at the course to so far in the distance that I to win. To think people thought thank all his supporters and

"It was all a safety mecha- then that I was very close to he has yet to lock out sadness thing. I hated the sport."

Then a glimmer of hope and rather than feeling helpless and not in control of my Festival and hated every ing.

The National was another fluence over the outcome," Osborne says. "Around the same time the injections in my hand were starting to have an effect, thank God.

"On nice summer mornings I started to ride Andrew Cohen's hack, this great big thing, on the Downs. I used to ride it round, tie it up to a tree, and go in and have breakfast with someone and then get on him have cared again. I just enjoyed being back if he won or on a horse. I was getting the buzz. And it suddenly dawned

on me that I wanted to get back. "I'd hit the bottom, but once I was there I could plan my way out of it. I realised that the best way to put two fingers up to everybody was to get back riding. Once I made that decision life changed completely."

The John Durkan Leukaemia Trust Handicap Chase at would get back on a horse again. of me as a cheat hurt. It was friends, but was to discover that Jamie Osborne.

One of the invited guests was Rose Nugent, who had become an honorary bloke in the Lambourn bratpack of 10 years ago. "She was the only one who could do the top rack," Osborne says. "Ed Dunlop used to pass out, and the rest of us were sick."

The day before his return, Osborne saw Rose in her horse and cart and handed over Ascot tickets. It was the last time he saw her alive. Twenty minutes later, her caravan ran out of control and overturned. "I woke up on the Saturday morning and, far from being excited, I felt was it all worth it," the rider says. "So you can see what an incredible day that was. There was so much in that day for me, a chance to get rid of the frustration and anger of the previous year.

"That's why I can't thank Walter [Dennis, Coome Hill's trainer] enough. Here was a man who had turned down fortimes for his pride and joy, who eats, sleeps and breathes the bloody thing and he was prepared to let me ride the horse first time up after 11 and a half months off. I just thought: 'what a man'."

The same could be said of

Toiseach to provide feast for **Fanshawe**

killed James Fanshawe, who broke his neck while riding a point-to-pointer at Cottenham. This predominantly Flat trainer has never allowed himself to get mad about the injury. He prefers to get even.

The master of Pegasus stables in Newmarket has only ever dabbled in National Hunt racing but the results have been spectacular. Kribensis may have had Michael Stoute's name appended to his when he won the Triumph Hurdle, but much of the buffing and polishing had been done by Stoute's assistant, Fanshawe.

In 1992, Fanshawe himself was depicted in gold lettering when Royal Gait won the Champion Hurdle and, ever since, the trainer has achieved notably over obstacles. Bold Gait, half his winter team, won at Newbury yesterday, and the other 50 per cent takes to the same track today when The Toiseach contests the Hen-

nessy Gold Cup.

During the Fiat turf campaign, over which he recorded level £1 stake profit of £68, Fanshawe made great play of a physique which could be easily accommodated in a scabbard. The trainer's skeleton advertisement, with the addition of spectacles, looked like a cross between The Saint logo and the bag of bones that used to be propped up in the corner of a biology classroom.

There was nothing skinny about The Toiseach in his reappearance at Ascot, where he beat Cool Dawn in a race the Gold Cup winner had collected the previous campaign. The seven-year-old can now find himself better in this after noon, as he was 9lb out of the handicap on his seasonal debut.

The Toiseach gets lumps of weight from the horse at the top of the list, Coome Hill, whose rider, Jamie Osborne, has also partnered Fanshawe's representative in the past. "I've ridden The Toiseach and he's a good horse, but he wouldn't be be Tennessee Twist (2.10), who in the class of Coome Hill," the jockey says. "People seem to think mine is an old plodder, but he's got gears you know. He always has a breather in the middle of the race, but if he's close enough jumping the last ditch they'll be in trouble as he'll

switch into his overdrive." Coome Hill won the Hennessy two years ago for Osborne but has since suffered breathing and leg problems. A soft-palate operation seems to who is serving a 14-day ban, can have repaired him by the judgement of recent gallops. "I went down to ride the horse work and Today's Newcastle card and Walter [Dennis, his trainer] yesterday's results, page 25

THE SPORT of jumping almost BY RICHARD EUMONDSON

took him to a mountain." Osborne says, "It wasn't a hili. It was a mountain. And the ground was terrible.

"I looked up into the clouds and said to Walter Jesus, you wouldn't want to be going up here quickly if you wanted to make it to the top'. 'No', he said, not for the first time at least. We went up three times and a horse had to be jumped in at half-way to keep him going. He had to have a blow after that, but I could tell his breathing was all right."

The former hunter-chase Teeton Mill, has a starkly similar profile to Coume Hill in his winning year. Like Dennis's gnasher, he too tuned up by winning Wincanton's Badger Beer Chase and now attempts to

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: The Tolseach (Newbury 2.20) NB: Decoupage (Newbury 1.15)

humble the old pros. The sus picion remains though that those he beat on his seasonal debut were unreliable.

Ireland's Boss Doyle is worth considering, as is Mary Reveley's Seven Towers, as the Charlie Hall Chase they contested at Wetherby is beginning to look a really good race. But this year's Hennessy is a race that one trainer may be able to feel in his bones, especially as they lie very close to the surface of his skin. Go for Fanshawe. Go for THE TOI-SEACH (nap 2.20).

There is much to like about Decoupage (next best 1.15), who looks the best at the weights of those which ran in the handicap hurdle on the Sunday of Cheltenham's Murphy's meeting. Everything, bar the price, will be likeable too about Mareilo (1.45).

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10 Aug 1 Aug

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NIX

At Haydock, the first horse to collect punters' interest should won well at Cheltenham two weeks ago. Play up the winnings on No Retreat (2.40), a winning novice chaser in New Zealand. who went in with a flourish on his British debut.

David Evans has taken advantage of Tony McCoy being able to ride at Fairvhouse tomorrow by booking the champion jockey for Master Beveled, who takes on Istabraq in the Hatton's Grace Hurdle, McCov. ride in Ireland as there is no racing in Britain tomorrow.

	1988	- 59	_90	91	_92	_93	94	95	96	97
Feta of the favourities:	4	2	4	P/P	2	3	7	5	2	
Winner's place in bettic	ng:O	2.J	2		0	ō	<u>-</u> -	-	21	÷
Starting-prices:	10-1	5-1	5-1	10-1	40-1	10-1	4-1	15-2	11-2	94
Winners' weights:	100	102	110	106	100	101	100	108	100	11.8
Winners' ages:	9	6	7	7	7	9	- -	_ 		-::
Percentage of winners Stroness-priced winners Longest-priced winners Top trainers: C Brooks - M Pipe - 3 D Barons - Tap fockeys: J Osborne P Soudern D Nicholsky	Sibtor Sibtor Coul Strand: Broa	Bay (Ablo dnt B Of (Cheel tic Ca	1997) ey (19 e Beti Gold (th (199 th (199	9-4 92) 4(983), 983), 96), Pl	0-1 95), S Chatz aysch	uny B an (19 ool (19 Hall (19	ay (19 91) 187)	97)		
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Jenks banned under

10-YEAR-TALE ON THE HENNESSY GOLD CUP

WARWICK

12.50 Briggs Turn 1.20 Polar Champ 1.50 Mister Oddy 2.25 Desert Mountain 2.55 L'Opera 3.25 Grange Court 3.50 Monsignor

GOING: Good to Soft (Good in places on chase course).

Left-hand course. Run-in of 240 yards.

Course is W of only on B4095. Stations at Warwick (im) and Learnington Spa (2m). ADMISSION: Cub \$13; Tettersells E9 (students half-proce); Course \$5. CAR PARK: E5 members; centre free.

LEADING TRAINGRS: M Pipe 23-66 (24%), D Micholson 13-87 (128%). Mrs. J Pitman 14-64 (218%). N Teriston-Davies 10-76 (128%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 21-50 (42%), N Williamson 17-76 (224%). A Maguire 13-58 (224%). W Maraton 13-81 (15%).

FAVOURITES: 144-362 (37.7%).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Pilppance (3.25).

[2.5	WARWICK UNIVERSITY CONDITION- ALS H'CAP HURDLE (F) \$2,400 2m
7	P230-4	COPPER SHELL (14) Mrs L.Jewel 4 12 0 T Peoples (7)
2	120/5	ZAHID (USA) (18) (D) K Burte 7 11 7L. Corcoran (3)
3	3216-	GRATE BRITISH (206) (D) J Allen 6 11 2
4	3030-F	HURRISCANE JANE (10) M J Roberts 6 17 2 Cummins
5	22-350	STORM TIGER (14) (D) 5 Melor 7 # 2 E Husband
6	21	PREMIUM CUEST (14) R Fahey 3 to 13
7	323/20	SCHNOZZLE (15) K Bridgwater 7 10 13
8	P-5622	BRIGGS TURN (10) P Bowen 4 10 12
9		CASHAPLENTY (F8)(D)(SF) N Litmode: 5 t0 ft . M Batchelor
10	0-00PP	FRONTIER PUGHT (16) (C) (D) P Hatt 8 10 5C Durham (7)
П	AJP5-1	WHISPERING COURT (23) (D) A Turnel 8 to 5 M Griffaths

- 12 decisred -BETTING; 7-2 Maradi, 5-1 Grate British, 13-2 Zahid, 8-1 Storm Tiger, Pre-mium Quest, Briggs Turn, Whisparing Court, 10-1 others FORM VERDICT

could prove better than their current marks, but narrow preference is for SRIGGS TURN, himself improving, and a fair

3	econd	at Kempton last th	mę.		
1	.20	QUINTON £5,500 2m	NOVICE	HURDLE	(C)
1	1	DON FAYRUZ (34) (D) H Daty 6 11 6 .	R	धारतार
2	0-	FORESTRY (284) M	Wildneson 4 11 0		chards
3	2	GEE BEE BÔY (18)	G McCourt 4 11 0	E Hu	s band
4	5-65	GENERAL FLIGHT	26) A Turnell 4 11	Q	ths (B)
5		KEY TO THE CITY (F43) P Eccles 4 1	10D	Буша
6		POLAR CHAMP (14			
7		SWINGING THE BL			
8	65/	TAIN TON (726) N T	reaton-Daves 6 1	i ûT	Jones
9	0	KANAWA (18) À PJ	anes 4 10 9	B(. Elice ci
_		`	declared		

— to declared —
BETTING: 13-8 Don Fayruz, 4-1 Gee Bee Boy, Polar Champ, 7-1 Swinging The Blues, 8-1 General Flight, 12-1 Key To The City, 16-1 Forestry,
Tain Ton, Kansawa.

FORM VERDICT This is by no means as straightforward as it may look at first glance, with the recent Wincanton winner DON FAYRIZ tacing a number of tellow Fat recruits who each straped well enough on their hurding debuts. Given that they are difficult to spit and that Don Fayruz is himself open to improvement,

1.50 TILTYARD BRIDGE HANDICAP CHASE (D) £5,000 2m - 4 declared -BETTING: 11-10 Mouse Bird, 9-4 Royastar, 8-1 Moustock, 6-1 Mistar Oddy.

FORM VERDICT None of the four can be readily ruled out but on recent form the in-term if enigmatic MOUSE BIRD will be hard to best if he runs to his last-time-out Newbury form.

2	1.25 HAPPY BIRTHDAY TOTE NOVICE CHASE (D) £5,00	PLACEPOT
_	NOVICE CHASE (D) £5,00	0 2m
1	30-13 DESERT MOUNTAIN (13) (II) N Calautian 5	22 _D Gallacher
2	4U5/F- COUNTRY STAR (200) (C) E L James 7 t/ 4	R Paccant
3	P4P-SF MACY (7) (C) R Dicker 5 ti 4	В Вупто
4	024 PP SEATTLE ALLEY (22) (0) P Webber 5 11 4 22P26/ TOMS CHOICE (676) J Yuck 9 11 4	Jilchael Brenner
5	225-224 TURNS CHOICE (575) J Tuck 9 11 4	R Вейеггу
BET	-5 deciend -	

tie Alley, 20-1 Tooms Choice. **FORM VERDICT** DESERT MOUNTAIN, dropped in grade after his good run at Cheltenham, has a straightforward opportunity. Country Star, suspect jumper as he is, is the only realistic alternative.

2.55 STAKIS METROPOLE HOTEL HANDI-CAP HURDLE (B) £7,500 2m 3

3 U4-IP1 CALL MY GUEST (128) R Precock 8 to 11 _____ D Gelegter 4 1272- HARLEQUIN CHORUS (291) (C) Med J Pinton 8 to 3.8 Cellord —4 declared — BETTRICS 64 L'Opera, 2-1 Call My Guest, 7-2 Charming Advalral, Har-FORM VERDIÇT

L'Opera ran well in a better race last time, but has not found it easy in handicaps, and preference is for CHARMENG AD-MIRAL, who can make a bold bid from the from, though Har-lequin Chorus and Call My Guest are not easily ruled out. 3.25 STAKIS METROPOLE STAMINA TEST HANDICAP CHASE (C) £7,000 3m 2f SAP J. JRASSIC CLASSIC (B) C.D Mai. Arbests 1 in 10 _M Richards 21.8-25 GRANGE COURT (21) (SP) 1 Williams 8 in 5 _____ D Gallingher 73:08 FLEPPANCE (11) (21) N Gassies 8 in 0 ______ D Lawly 8 FG-23 FOLLY ROAD (11) 0 Williams 8 in 11 _____ R Johnson 22(60) NOTABLE EXCESTION (16) R DOCK 9 in 0.7 ______ D Byrns 22(60) NOTABLE EXCESTION (16) R DOCK 9 in 0.7 ______ D Byrns BETTING: 13-8 Folly Road, 2-1 Grange Coart, 5-1 Pappense, 7-1 Juras-alz Cameic, Notable Exception

FORM VERDICT With the others out of form, GRANGE COURT and Folly Read are the two on which to concentrate. The form of the first-named is more solid so, in the hope that his jumping holds

EN WEATHERBYS 'STARS OF TOMO	ìR-
.50 WEATHERBYS 'STARS OF TOMO ROW' NH FLAT RACE (H) 21,500	2m
1- EDDY'S SON (364) (CD) D Nicholson 6 11 11R Messey	
1 MONSIGNOR (21) (D) M Permen 4 11 11	121
1 NATIVE APPICITY (21) (D) P Hooks 4 11 11 R Widge	
1 OPTIMISTIC THROKER (25) T George 4 1, 11 S Kelly	200
1- VALIANT MEMORY (200) N Chance 5 11 6 D Finnegar	Ж
2 BALLYNABRAGGET (24) N Twiston-Davies 5 H 4 J Goldstale	ò
BALMORAL SPRING K Baley 5 11 4E Byran	m
O BRONCOJELF (13) J OStea 5 tl 4Michiel Brox	T
O FARMER JOSH (S7) Williams 4 th 4	(3)
FINNIGAN'S LOT E.L.James 4 11 4	(5)
GABAKA DE THADK (FR) M J Roberts 4 11 4 G Supple	(3)
O INFERNO (21) Mrs J Flirms 5 11 4	Ø.
JACDOR R Dickn 4 11 4X Alzpuro	댓
MANTEENO P Bowen 4 ft 4	W
2- NESHER (200) Mrs J Pitren 4 1: 4	У.
PERK ALERT D Nicholson 4 11 4 Mr H Hankey	· in
4 SLENDER JACK (ST) P Hottos 4 11 4 Mr D O'Moure	Ö
SUPPLEME IRONY M J Roberts 5 ft 4L Cummins	3
UNCLE TERRY C Egerton 5 tl 4 Mr S Stroage	m
O UNIDER THE THUMB (\$1) C Mortock 4 17 4	'n
ECCURAL I SANSO Mo N Publish & 40 42 M Million Sanson	· mi

- 22 deciand -BETTING: 3-1 Monaiguor, 7-2 Bellynebragget, 11-2 Optimistic Thistor, 8-1 Native Arrow, 7-1 Eddy's Son, Vallant Memory, Nesber, 16-1 others FORM VERDICT This is almost certainly the best bumper of the season so far with five previous whereas, plus a number of representatives from top stables in contention. Defying a penalty is never easy, but such was the impression created by MONSIGNOR on his debut that he is taken to do so, though newcomers No Forecast and Uncle Terry are among a number feared.

the 'non-trier' rule TOM JENKS narrowly avoided ficient effort or ridden to obtain missing the ride on the Grand the best possible placing. He

which begins one racing day was a straightforward case of after Earth Summit's return to schooling and conditioning. action in the Rehearsal Chase at Chepstow on 5 December.

Jenks missed Earth Summit's Grand National win due to injury but was back on board when the gelding took the Becher Chase at Aintree last week

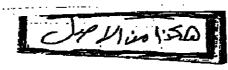
He was penalised yesterday for his riding of the Martin Tate-trained Two Lords, who ran on well in the latter stages of the selling hurdle to finish fifth behind Prussia

The stewards' secretary. William Nunneley, said; "The

National winner, Earth Summit, was dropped out behind and again yesterday. Riding at Ban-ran on to be beaten two and a gor, the jockey was handed a half lengths for fourth place five-day "non-triers" ban - under tender handling and it

> "Mr Tate was fined £750, Tom Jenks suspended for five days and the horse for 30 days." Tate said: "I broke the rules and I have got to pay the penalty. The horse has a history of

breaking blood vessels and we wanted to get him round today:" Soaked equalled the 20th Century record of nine handicap wins in a year at Lingfield yesterday, with Sihafi, who is also on the nine mark, back in seventh. Soaked could race for the outright record of 10 wins horse was never asked for suf-at Southwell on Tuesday.



PUNTERS' GUIDE

The Toiseach ready

Coome Hill: Showed him- but this mare needs to im-

scoring an emotional victory Indian Tracker: Unlikely to

under Jamie Osborne at make the frame, even on his

fun. Sure to run a big race Avro Anson: Pulled up on his

Addington Boy: A tall order and is probably past his self-

for his run behind Court post favourite after his Win-

stayer who will be plugging on Fine Thyne: Decent on his

ble is in form and Nicky Hen-ner, Coome Hill, looks capa-

derson has a knack for ble of playing a part under a

getting them ready first time welter burden.

by date.

them all.

is a worry.

reappearance at Wetherby

Sail By The Stars: Up

against it on all known form.

The Toiseach: Impressive

winner at Ascot last weekend

when not fully wound up.

Looks to be a star in the

making and sure to run well.

Teeton Mill: Worthy ante-

canton warm-up and jumps

cleanly enough to stretch

day but lack of a recent run

Him Of Praise: Needs to

run out of his skin to lay up

with the major players. The Last Fling: Outclassed.

Conclusion: Teeton Mill and

THE TOISEACH make the

most appeal from the bottom

end of the handicap. I ride

The Toiseach in a lot of his

work and he could not go into

the race with a better chance.

I expect him to get the better

of a duel with Teeton Mill,

while the 1996 Hennessy win-

self as good as ever when prove dramatically.

to show authority

The former top jump jockey

Steve Smith Eccles analyses today's Hennessy Gold Cup

Ascot. Stays, and jumps for best form.

under top weight.

to win this race on reap-

pearance. He will not appre-

ciate the rain-softened

ground and is one to avoid.

Boss Doyle: Improving Irish

raider who has bags of abili-

ty but his jumping does oc-casionally let him down.

Call It A Day: Will strip fitter

Melody at Sandown but lacks

Seven Towers: Out-and-out

when many have cried

enough. However, he may be

caught flat-footed at the busi-

Eudipe: Quirky character who has ability but certainly

is not one to trust. He could

run well if he is in the right

Sparky Gayle: Sound jumper

but gives the impression that

this three and a quarter mile

trip will stretch his stamina.

Mahler: Soft ground would

improve his chance but there

appear to be a few too good

Fiddling The Facts: Her sta-

NEWBURY

1.15: Tyrolean Dream and

finishing speed.

ness end.

frame of mind.

for him.

own lean time 'ovide" hawe

ME INDEPENDENT. 24 Navrania - 1998

> thing Wine inten's Badger & Charte and now afterness RICHARD EDMONDS Nap: The Toiseach

akt

(Newbury 2.20) NB: Decoupage (Newbury 1.15)

hundler the old pass Tags the est commune though 2 three to trut on he see aleban were unreliable dar Inviends Bees Dag with confidence asset ikh : wa how a Soun Tough age the Charles H. 7 Closes and avadence int Wetherly so 🚧 – potrato to biek a pulha tals the Basyear's lieger granism matematical the about the combinions. The state of the s il. the contract the skill file the community of the In-SERVED TO SERVED the first the first terms of the * Decompage and best :

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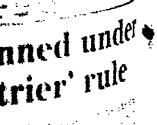
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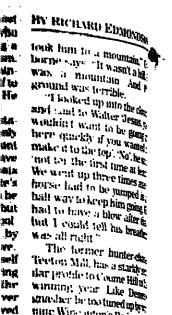
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HYPERION'S TV TIPS

DECOUPAGE were second and fourth at Cheltenham, but Decoupage can reverse placings on this track. That pair should prove better value than Today's test is not easy with the Champion Hurdle prospect Zafarabad and Lady Rebecca.

1.45: Conditions do not look testing enough for Princeful who would need everything in his favour to beat MARELLO.

2.20: The Toiseach and Tecton Mill are hard to ignore, but there is also good each-way value to be had with 33-1 chance INDIAN TRACKER. The Martin Pipe contender began last season promisingly and had obvious excuses for all but one of his disappointments after- 3.10: PETERSEN HOUSE can wards. This trip should prove ideal and he is fully effective on good ground or soft.

HAYDOCK looked fine and dandy at Chel-

Share Options harking around with a low weight, but Jenny Pitman's charge is worth stay ing with. 2.40: NO RETREAT proved

good enough when a rare stable runner at Newbury and looks the type to improve plenty being just a five-year-old. Whip Hand has fine chasing form and will be hard to beat, though his odds are likely to be skinny and there is just a doubt about his stamina.

emulate last year's winner, Native Shore, who had also won her previous four starts.

2.10: TENNESSEE TWIST 3.40: JEMARO jumped partic-has had his problems but all ularly well at Ludlow last backend and will take some holding tenham where he relished the off a low weight in this relative long trip on a tough course. ly soft-looking contest.

2.20

2.50

3.20

Enchance a quanter to order, places 1, 2, 2, 4

(1) Pete The Parson

(3) Green Green Desert

TOKYO - SUNDAY

€	3.20	JAPAN CUP (GROUP 1) £1,981,276 : Penalty Value £1,735,065	edded 1m 4f
1	-12313	AIR CROOVE (Lucky Field Co) Y to 589	N Yokoyeese 1
2	-24630	SILK JUSTICE (SS. Co) M Olubo 4 8 13	\$ Fujibe 2
3	-21212	YUSEI TOP RUN (Asahi Club Inc) H Otoneshi 5 8 13	H Kematil 3
ă.	-12240	FAITHFUL SON (Godolphin) Seeed bin Surour (GB) 4 E 13.	Dettor# 4
5	-1545	MAYZENE & Selicuchi) 7 Skillington (US) 589	C Astronom 5
8	-5124	CHEEF BEARHART (Sem-son Farm) M Prosted (US) 5 8 13	Section 5
7	-12121	STAY GOLD (Shed Race Horse) Y line 4 8 13	? يسمعن کِـــ
À	-03250	CATTANO (G Taraka) A Schutz (Gar) 4 B 18	O Peeller 8
9	-12112	COCCIAL WEEK (H Lineth) Y Okabo 3 8 9	Y Otabe 9
10	00000	TORSO FACELLERIT (K Yoshida) Y Takahashi 4 8 13	Y Shibata 10
ñ		E CONTOR DERA (T Watershol Y Minorite 389	
22	-11466	GOING SUZUKA (K Nage) M Hashida 5 8 18	K ##### 12
-	-10234	SILENT HUNTER & Usuda) Y Citatio 58 18	Y Yoshida 13
14	.75243	LINGARO (Gestut Rottger) H Blums (Ger) 48 13	T Heller 14
5	-4581D	LUSO (S Manara) C Brittain (GE) 68 19	II Kinene 15
_		- 15 declared -	[
RE	TING: 7-4	2 Air Groove, 9-2 Special Week, 5-1 Falkblul Son, 7-1 Chief Be	erhan, El Condor

Past, 8-1 Mercane, 10-1 Stay Gold, 12-1 others 1997: Pisudski 5 8 13 M Krene 7-2 (Sr M Stode, GB) drawn (2) 14 ran

CHARITY PLACEPOT PERM Celebrating 21 years of the Plathe Tote are giving The endent a £24 charity Pla-(7) Sparky Gayle (10) Indian Tracker (13) The Toiseach (14) Teeton Mill

capot bet each day this week. Hyperion's selections (racecard number in brackets) are: Newbury 12.45

(4) Moor Lane (5) Top Note 1.15

(1) Zafarabad (6) Decoupage (1) Princeful

C Corel, H William HJ, L Lucheniae, S Startey, T'Ede

(7) Just Good Fun 2x3x2x4x2x1 selections = 96 bets at 25p per line. Stake: £24.00. (4) Marello

FIRST SHOW

Ne			1.1	5		Newbury 2.20					
Lite	MD	n y	•••	•		· 1	E	H	L	5	7
Horan	C	- 8	L			Tacalco A	3-1	3-1	3-1	34	108
	41	41	9.2	92	41	The Towards	5.2	6-1	92	92	
Zadarahad ———————————————————————————————————						Book Doyle	81	152	7-1	74	9-1
Walifie Sands	9-2	51	92	92	92	Serge Towers	9-1	7-1	3-2	13-2	6-1
	64	6-1	5-1	54	6-1	Fine Thysia	13-1	10-1	11-1	11-1	101
Decospage	<u></u>					Count H	71-1	10-1	12-1	124	11-1
Lady Rubscon	92	92	92	82	<u> </u>	Fideling The Pa	ca 2-1	9-1	124	124	10-1
Town Down	12.2	15-2	7-1	7-1	61	CHEADO	34-1	18-1	18-1	15-1	14-1
Tyrolago Drawn		==		_		Endge	16-1	16-1	2-1	72-1	16-1
Easter Ross	9-1	81	. 9-1	91	8-1	Specky Conje	14-1	#1		16-1	14-1
	81	51	9-1	9-1	6-1	Mariler	251	22-1		25-1	
Sir Taibol	-		_			High CV Profes	20-1	23-1	264	16-1	<u> 201</u>
Ginger Fox	11-1	12-1	7-1	7-1	10-1	Indian Tracker	\$3-1	33-1		334	نت.
(James la	18-1	22-1	20-1	20-1	18-1	Sall by The Sta				234	_
Upgrade					_	The Last Ping	83-1			441	_
Exec. Decision			20-1		25-1	Addington Boy	33-1	401		401	
Each way a fifth th	e odds.	pleco	1,25	<u> </u>		Auto Apacan			180-1		

NEWBURY

HYPERION 12.45 Moor Lane 2.20 Indian Tracker 1.15 DECOUPAGE (nap) 2.50 Green Green Desert

3.20 Just Good Fun GOING: Good

GOING: Good.

ELER-hand, fist, oval course with stiff tyncas.

E Course is SE of town near A34, Relively station (service from London, Paddington) actions course. ADMISSION: Members £25; Tettersels £12; Siver Ring £5 (OAPs helf price). Accompanied 17-year-olds or under free at enclosures. CAR PARICE Southmeed £2; Picnic area £5; remainder free.

ELEADENG TRAINERS: D Nicholson 20 winners from 91 runners (aucosse rate 22%).

O Sherwood 15-50 (20%), N Hendescuss 15-88 (17%), M Pipe 14-71 (127%).

ELEADENG JOCKEYS: J Osborne 31 wins from 94 rides (success rate 33%), M A Ritigerald 16-26 (127%), R Duawnoody 12-93 (14%), A P McCoy 12-95 (14%)).

ELANOURITES: 124 wins in 327 moss (\$28%).

BUNICERED FIRST TIME: None.

12.45 FULKE WALWYN CHASE (CLASS C) £8,000 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £5,784

BETTING: 9-4 Cader Square, 7-2 Moor Lane, Top Note, 5-1 Kalghesbridge Scot, Ob Donne, 12-1 Looks Like Trouble. 1967: Sounds Fyrie 8 11 0 M A Pitzgerald 12-1 (J PitzGerald) 7 ran

FORM VERDICT With no penetry for his wins in hunter chasse in the spring, CEDAR SQUARE locks the one to beat. He may know too much for some of his less experienced rivels at this stage, and Victor Destruel, his trainer, has a remertable 74 per cent strier rate over the last three

1.15 EQUITY FINANCIAL GERRY FEILDEN HAND-ICAP HURDLE (GRADE 2) (A) £30,000 added 2m 110yds Penelty Value £19,290

- 10 declared n weight: 10st 7lb. True handicap weights: Deccupage 10st 6lb, Pyrolaan Dream & Easter Ross mension megat for A.S. Net caractep wagen: Decoupage Funcian, systems foreign a zoner Func 10st SD, Gloger For & Str Yabot 10st 40s. BETTING: 9-2 Ledy Rebecca, Whithe Sanda, Zolinabad, 6-1 Decoupage, 7-1 Gloger Fox, Tyrohan Dream, 9-1 Easter Hose, Str Talbot, 20-1 Executive Decision, Upgagia 1997: (non-handcap) Saxoentiro 5 11 6 A Maguire 15-8 far (D Nicholson) 6 fan

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Zatarrabach: Only defeat over hundes when 4/k lengths fourth to Upgrade at Chahanhem. Very impressive reappearance wis here (2m, good) from Regarip Uberales, but that that has been besten in similar style since. Top-clean prospect

Lidy Rebuccas: Won three times at 2m in 1986 and four times from 2m41 to 3m fast issm. Up 15b for facility wis in 128/200 handlesp at Chejardhem (2m51, good) 13 days ago. The drop to 2m is a concern, but she is capable of whining in this company Upgande: Made most to win Tifumph Hunde at Chellenhem in Masch. Researable reappearance effort but tell first next time. Best on sound surface. May need further now Watsibe Beander Very useful for John Durdop, winning twice and placed behind Foundry Lane at Wetsherby (besten 4 lengths) and Irm Suppoein at Wincention (besten 19½ lengths). Bought since for 105/00 guinees to joh Martin Pipe. Has to improve Executive Declaion: Ex-frish, 12½ lengths sich to Zatarabad at Punchestown (2m, soft) in April. Led 2 out but hung left and headed by Tonica after the lest on reappearance in 5-runner bandlesp at Chepatow (2m½, good to soft). Likely to find the too tough Decoupage: On bridle long way when placed twice this term at Chellanhem, 5½ lengths curth to Grey Shot in 20000 hendicap lest time. This track may well such him better Tyrolean Dream: Won at Chepatow and Wetherby 3½-lengths ahead of Decoupage Touris to Grey State it 200,000 heroccep assume. This state may we suit rain bear "Hyrotiens Dreism: Won at Chepstow and Wetherby 3% lengths sheed of Decoupage at Chebanhem (2m*/4, good) and now 5th worse off. That form looks very solid. Another who is on the upgrade, and has good prospects of a place at least Easter Rose: Eastey winner of first and least (Wincanton handicap; 2m, good to soft) starts over hundles but twice beaten at odds on in between (nearly ran out on second outing). 13th higher than for latest win. Hand to weigh up, but clearly has potential Glinger Fox: Tenth in Supreme Novices' at Chebanhem. Good second of 11 in handings at Westerly 2m, occur in soft heros at Westerly 2m, occur in soft heros at the first in the same arca as it. Gaingler Forc: seran in Supremie revices as Chemistrians, Good seasons or in manager and a supremier (and a supremier and a supremier and a supremier and institute same race as Up-grade last time. Stable in good form and track-vell aut, but 8th higher than on reappearance Str faithout Has had only three runs over hurdes, beaten in 8 langths by City Half at Sandown but whiting at his hingrigh and Chepstow. (a langth in front or relable Poler Prospect at Chepstow (2m)/4, good to soft last month. Stable in good form. Unexposed

VERDICT: Turning this race into a handlesp has created a highly compatitive race with a high-class field. The admirable Lady Rebecca had a five-day entry in the 3m1/si race which follows and may find this too sharp. Tyro are reopposed by two interesting first-flight failure that day, Upgrade and Striper Fox. Wishiba Sende and Stribilot have obvious potential, tutifie is best let to ZAFARABAD who have a near-perfect record over hundler, he left a big impression with his easy winhere on his responsance and is fleely to come on for that run.

1.45 SOLAGLAS LONG DISTANCE HURDLE BBC1 (Grade 2) (A) £20,000 added 3m 110yds Penalty Value £12,620

ements green, white stees, ements green cap, white stee | P Nees |
S01-1 MARSLLO (20) (5) (6 Ms W J Willard) Ms M Reveloy 7 11 2 P Nees |
Oyel bits, yellow steped steeses, notel bits cap, yellow stee |
S1F11/ PHARAMEAN (57) (6) Statistics Thanded Fasterend (5 McCriction 8 11 0 __A Minguise |
nd, block clawors, while steeses, and annials, yell and block steped cap |
400-4 SHOOTERS LIGHT (21) (87) (J M Brown) P Murphy 9 11 0 _____ M Williamson V

BETTING: 4-0 Minrollo, 11-2 The Prome, 9-1 Princeloi, Shooting Light, 16-1 Phissness, 20-1 Re-

1997: Go-informal 6 11 0 E Callaghan 5-2 (J Jefferson) 8 ran FORM GUIDE

Princefult: Stamina is his strong suit and he relighed his first start at three miles when winning the Grade 1 Stayers' Hundle at Cheberhem (good) in March, coming through on the turn to best Splendid Thyrne by 2 lengths. Chasing prospect. Stable as in go

mos: Francois Doumanis challengers can sektom be ignored, but this one looks to have something to find on form, toprovement is possible on first run at 3m. The Promise Progressed really well in the spring, whining four three of them in the much on the total at 2m51 to 3m34. Below form on good to firm in Mey shough. Peasured with 5-largith with from Dictains in hendicap at Chellenham (2m51, good to soft), tooking as If he had improved again, Not much to find, but may need soft surfac

ing as if he had introduced again. Not much to find, but may need sont sursect Marefile: Very smart form at 2m to 2md/lef last season before 19th in the Champion Hurdle suggested sits would be best campaigned as a stayer. Has since won Grade 2 events over 3m on good to soft at both Ascot (by 5 lengths from Oppart) and Wather-by (by 11 lengths from Nigats Lad). Should prove the best saided by conditions today Pharamear: Not far off Princetol and Marefiles from judged by his win in the Gold Card Final at Challerham (Sm2), good to firm) in March last year. It sussed since then, housever.

Shooting Light: 68-1, good seventh in the Chempion Hurdin (2m/M, good) in Metch. Closely weighted with Merallo on their clash over 2m4f at Chepatow last November, but she has improved at 3m. He may do so as well judged on trappearance effort VERDICT: This may well be an insufficient test of staming for Princeful, whose faun This season apparently lies over lenoes. With the ground possibly not soft emough for The Proms, the obvious choice is MARELLO who has proved her well-being atreaty this season and is also now proven at the tip. The same cannot be said of Shooting Light, who would however have a thir chance if he improved even signify for this first sampt at Sm.

2.20 HENNESSY COGNAC GOLD CUP H'CAP BBC1

		CINARE [GIESE O] (V) TIAIOO BOOM
		3m 2f 110yds Penalty Value £47,926
l	0/3 P-1	COOME HILL CAR (CD) (Are. At Devrie) W Derree 9 11 10
2	-	ADDRIGTON BOY (254) (D) (Gott Foods List) N Richards 1) 11 10R Guest mel and white districute, populative alsows, populative cap, and districted
1		BOSS DOYLE (25) Gits A M Daigh M Morrett it 7 IR Burry extends green & orange disboth, extends green cap, crange star
ŀ		CALL IT A DAY (21) (CD) files Jane Lane) D Nichobon 8 11 0 A Magaire royal bias, red charenes, milite abaves, bias cap, red incops
i	机角	SEVEN TOWERS (14) (D) play E A history) bits M Reveloy 9 ti 0 (4er)
3		BUDPE (FT) (217) (D.A. Jorceson) M Pipe 6 10 13
		SPARKY GASLE (14) (RF) (Represent Anderson Green) C Partier 5 10 11 B Storay several green, yellow such and star on cap
l	311-P6	MAHLER (10) (English Badminton Pertnership) N Twiston-Device 8 10 11
ı	277	FIDDLING THE FACTS (212) (Mrs E Roberts) N Heridenon 7 10 9

pint and jellow disrocats, yellow alsower and cap FOS-13 THE LAST FLING (21) (SIF) fillicined Jackson Bloodstocký láts S Smith 8 10 1.5 Dessels.

- 17 declared -BETTING: 3-1 Teston Mill, 9-2 The Toiseach, 13-2 Seven Towers, 7-1 Bose Doyle, 11-1 Fine Thyse, 12-1 Coome Hill, Endips, Fidding The Facts, 16-1 Call it A Day, Sparty Gayle, 18-1 Histo Cf Praise, 28-1 Mabler, 33-1 Indian Tracker, Sall By The Stars, 40-1 Addington Boy, The Last Fling, 100-1

1967: Suny Bay 8 11 8 G Bradley 9-4 fev (C Brooks) 14 ran

Cooses Hill: Won this in 1996, but pulled up 12 months ago and had to have soft palate operation. Off with leg problem until 1%-length win from Samles in 8-turner race at Ascot (3m/4, act; 6b higher here) but weeks ago. Should come on for that reexpearance and with longer tot, but open to rather less improvement then some of his rivels. Addington 8 by: Won 1996 Tripleprint Gold Cup at Cheltenhern (2m5f, good). Remains on-

Accordance from the supports control at Lossantam (article good) remains or-exposed at 3m effect interrupted 1997/98 seeson, pulled up (in touch undi hempered 5 cut) in the Gold Cup. Something to prove on his first run since. Would not went the ground soft Bose Doyle: Cityly a 6yo but one of the top novice chasers last seeson, not appearing at Challenham but winning 8 races, mostly in the mud, including by 13 lengths from Occode at 5/4 over 3mf at Althrea, Promising 2 lengths second to Strath Royal in maiding race at Wetherby four weeks ago. Stantina test will suit, but he tends to make a mistake or two Call it A Day: He last six races last term were all at 3m4f to 4m41, including when third in the tith Grand National and when wiming the Whitbreed at Sandown by 5 lengths from Pine Thyria, both races on soft. 5b worse off with Pine Thyria and the drop in trip will not suit him kleely, but put up an encouraging reappearance at Sandown tires weeks ago

Seven Towers: West from strength to strength in 1998/97, winning lest four starts. One of those was at 3 and and the other three at 4m to 4m21, so the big doubt about him here is whether the trip is king enough. Both runs this term have been at 3m1t, with 1%-length whether the Breschay in S-curitor race at Ayr (good to acit, with Sparky Gale throl) showing that there are no doubts over he well-being, 45 peeaby attli sewas him on a document mark. Eadiper 17 lengths third to impressive Suny Bay in this race test year (soft), 11% lengths second to Baronat in the Scottian National (entit), good to firm) and 15 lengths third to Call EA Day in the Whatmard. Has 5th pull with Call EA Day here, which does not look enough

Sperity Guylar, Nearty all his channing experience has been at around 2m4t rather desp-pointing last term Dut stable was out of form. Still managed second of 14 to Super Con. over 2m t1/4 at Chattenham Festival and Enabed strongly that day. Respondence 5-langua thank to Seven Toward off this mank should have put han right. Stamma is the question Mahler, Scopey act who maky came into his own last time sharis last lam, on finel one winning Grade 1 at Punchestown (Smit) soft) by 5 langths. Probably just as affective on good ground. Looked type to improve again this season, but has performed poorly on both Flidding The Factor Good rovice last season, "Alength second to Escentrique at Chap

atow (Sm. good to soft) in February. Usually jumps well, but didn't in the SurAlliance at Chebenters (2011), good; pulled up; next time and then left two out when looking booked for second behind Mahler at Punchestown, Also pulled up on heavy at Aintree in between Business at Crepation (5m, good to soft) in Disceriber Looked possible winner entering straight in Welsh Nellonal, poor effort at Heydock, canned out in the Gold Cup and pulled up on heavy at Aintree. May yet come good, but has not been dropped even a pount. Auro Anson: Stays well and best on sound aurinos, coming soon in the 1987 Crand National. Lightly raced and find the ground against him lest time starts, but even so is hard to recommend after he was pulled up in Grade 2 hundle race at Welfardby last month Self by The Stars: Won her last four starts last season, all at around 3m on soft surface and last of them by 10 lengths as 6-runner race at Chapatow 7th higher here. Will stay well. Below-form fevourite behind Coome His at Ascot, beaten 18 lengths, but most of stable ions have come on for reeppearances. This race, however, as a big step up in class companies insecting of the reoppearance. The tokenick is a big seep by a case. The Tokenick Work 5 of 5 starts less term in novice seepon, or ground ranging from soft to good to firm. Registered wide-margin auccesses at secund 3m liest two occasions and another one, by it langua from Court Melody (winner time before) and Cool Dewit, at According weeks ago, 4th persistly between time on a very lescurable mark. Thesion billible Leading hunter chaser last term, Sharting with 7-length was at Stratford (3m4).

Teation test: Leading nutries creater test test, final-ring with 7-length van at Stratford (Smitt, good to first) on accord start for Venetie Williams. First run in handcap and could not have been more impressive when beating Menescric 8 lengths (value good deal more) in 7-survier race at Wincarton (good) this month. Easily stiffed bank yet, but has obvious chance. Place Thyrice Closely weighted with Call A Day for 5-length defeat in the Whistness, when he rands emodifished with Call A Day for 5-length defeat in the Whistness, when he rands emodifished with Call A Day for 5-length defeat in the Whistness, when he rands emodifished with Call A Day for 5-length defeat on the Day of 5-length defeat of the Start St he made amouth heathway to lear? Out, but should prove the better scaned by the slight-ly shorter top and by the firmer ground. Good place prospects if the rain stays away. Him Of Pysiaes Much Improved lest season, complaining live-timer with 11/a-longh win from Call it A Day (now 25) better off) at Sendown (Sm5t, soft). Defeats next two starts appeared to establish his level and he refused in the Grand National. Easily best form on soft going The Laset Filling: Has long or ability but blunders away his chance more other than not. Sho higher than for amouth win in 8-numer race at Westwelp (Smitt, soft, sust as affective on good) in October. Next start at Sandown, however, saw return of those jumping arrors

VERDICT: The tirse to concentrate on are the penaleso, test time-out warrans Sevi Towers, TEETON MILL and The Tolerach Seven Towers bolts railed on for a major prize cover long distances this sesson but there is a strong exaption that this will not provide a stiff enough last of stamha. There is little to be said against the Research plier his performance against Court Malody last week, but that was only a week ago and Seston Mil marks the selection snywey in the belief that he has the greater ecope for improvement

2.50 JIM JOEL MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) \$10,500 added 2m 1f Penalty Value \$6,952

klinimum weight: 10st Oft. True hendicap weights: Heatwille Star Bat 13th BETTHEC: 5-4 Green Green Desert, 15-8 Pets The Parson, 5-2 Indian Jockey, 16-1 Manbellio Star. twe Mission 10 11 9 R Durwoody 7-2 (J FitzGerald) 4 ran

FORM VERDICT

The ground is the lary here. With rain arricopated, PETE THE PARSON will be in his element, while Indian Jockey and Green Green Desert are Ruly to struggle. In that event, shrille Star, despite a poor run just five days ago, would be worth considering for a

3.20 NEWBURY SAAB NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS C) £6,000 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £4,858

1	1123	MEDALLE MELITAIRE (26) (D) (BF) (James Hartrett) M Pipe 6 11 10
2	222-3	GUILDER (21) (D) (Economic Security) P.R. Webber 4 11 6 J.A. McCarthy
3	26	AUTURAN COVER (F16) (SF) (G.A. Alexander) P Hedger 6 TI D
4	5	COLOUR KEY (USA) (14) (Michael Jackson Bloodstock) P Hayward 4 17 0 P Holley
5	P-32F	HARRK (12) (The Best Beech Partnershot) G L Moore 4 ti 0
6	}	INDIAN MILLER (John Bidel) J Old 7 11 0
7	1D02	JUST GOOD FUN (10) (Just Good Fun Club) M Filman 4 11 0
8	•	MANCINI (8) (Mrs Anne Yearley) J Okt 5 ti 0 L Hervey
9)	SALAMAH (F150) (Lady Lloyd Webber) C Egenton 4 11 0
1		SMINT (21) (Food Brokens Ltd) J Gillord 4 11 0
1	000-	STONE'S THROW (207) (& Mrs F C Welch) D Nicholson 5 11 0 A Maguire
Ţ	2 50	STRAZO (18) (E Reits) Lady Hernes 5 to 0,
1	3 1-4	WRLD BLADE (96) (D) (BF) (Middlefram Park Racing XVI) N Chance 5 Tr 0S Durack. - 13 declared
_		

BETTING: 2-1 Medalin Militairs, 9-2 Quilder, 13-2 Just Good Fux, 8-1 Auturen Cover, Wild Blade 12-1 Harlik, Salamets, Struze, 16-1 others 1997: Polydamas 5 Tl () A Maguire 15-2 (K Balley) 14 tan

FORM VERDICT

Not a strong renewal of this contest, with only a handful making much appeal. MEDAILLE MELTAINE didn't lest home on heavy ground lest time but his provious way delect of subsequent winner Minutes reads well and a reproduction of that level of form will set quite a stiff standard for husding debutant and main danger Saleman to appre to.

HAYDOCK

1.10 Do Be Have 1.40 Churchtown Gien

HYPERION 2.40 No Retreat (nb) 3.10 Petersen House 3.40 Jernaro

2.10 Tennessee Twist GOINGE: recory.

Almost fiet, ovel course; steep fences; 2f run-in on chase course.

Course is near junction of ASSO and MS. Newton station 2m. ADMISSION: County Stand £17; Tattersalls £10; Newton Stand £5 (CAPs half-price in Tattersalls and New-

ty Stand 277; Tetheratis Ett., Newton Stand 20 (Levis Hear) and a summer of the first conductive from the first conductive Maude 11-45 (24.4%), A Megaire 11-48 (23.9%). III FAVOURITES: 15-502 (36.1%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None.

1.10 MOBILES BY MAIL CLAIMING HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,400 added 2m 4f Pennity Value £1,896

- A declared -

HETTING: 4-5 Out Rendring, 4-1 Infumous, 6-1 De He Hare, 16-1 Decoing At Lahars, 16-1 Leep in The Dark 26-7 Greenington 20-1 officers The Dark, 25-? Granderina, 23-1 others 1997: Native Field 8 10 2 F Leeby (3) 7-1 (J FitzGernich 9 zer

FORM VERDICT

Out Ramiding is the obvious choics but represents this in the way of value on this ground and could be worth opposing with DO BE HAVE, who was once a fair steping handicap hunder with Janny Pitmen and has been entered here on a feesible weight to take account

1.40 WESTGATE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) £7,500 added 2m 6f Penalty Value £4,931

-5 declared Makinger weight: 10st. Two herolices weight: Churchtown Glas Set 13th.
SETTING: 8-4 Supreme Lady, 11-4 Seemes Seed, 7-2 Old Hush Wing, 8-1 Heritage, Churchtown 1997: Deanck Beans 5 10 1 G Maude 8-11 fav (M Pipe) 10 rac

FORM VERDICT

SUPPREME: LADY, who failed to cope with a moralt Ela Agept Mou at Newbury on her respectance when a monster moralg plunge, can recoup the losses off a 4th higher mark on ground that autis her. The big threat may come from Seeame Seed, who goes well fresh, handles the ground and is not hardly treated. Old Hush Wing is progressing along the right lines for Mary Reveloy and must be respected.

2.10 TIM MOLONY MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £15,000 added 3m 4f 110yds Penelty Value £10,211

1 PS-11 SHARE OPTIONS (21) (Steve Harmond) T Eastedy 7 10 2 __Mr D Harpby (7) sine, thick cap

-6 declared =

BETTHIC: 2-1 Share Options, 5-2 housesses Teles, 5-1 Dom Semoural, 5-1 Persons Boy, 12-1 Obers,

4

El Timit, pri como y processo de Medica Palentey 2011: Him Of Praise 7 to D.J.A. McCarrisy 7-4 for (O Sherwood) 8 san FORM GUIDE

Dom Samourat: Had recent winning form when a game 2nd in this race last year and later reversed the form with Him Of Praise here. Big weight on reappearance, though jockey won on Terrenno's at Cheftenhern Tennessee Teleb Reighed the trip (3m 3f) at Cheftenham to regain lead on run-in from Strong Cheftman and Yahun. Well regarded as a novice and fine chence now that help

tion Fairway: Fifth in the Thyestes Chase first time out lest seeson and ward ris on a law with the seasons reeppearance 3rd to Beter Times Aheed at Carisle and a past winner of this race. May just be better conceding weight to inferior rivals

nowarays Share Options: Duel winner at Wetherby lest term and a staying-on 2nd to Madeon County on this course (2m4t), Unbeaten this season, besting Random Harvest in test-ing ground at Market Rasen and Son Of Iris at Utionetic. On a good handicap mark

Obsert Drew a blenk from four starts last term and doesn't look up to the task on his latest 3rd to Tamarindo in amateurs' race at Chellenham. Seems to be up against here ven though the Knight stable has hit form

VERDICT: Share Options is on a roll after Market Rasen and Utbester and has demonstrated his ability to stay well. He will be hard to best with a feather weight, but TENRESSEE TWIST has always promised to be decent when given a trip and the win at Chaltenhern was no great surprise. Whether has capable of conceding 13b to Share Options remains to be seen but he gate the vote at the likely bigger odds. Does Seasoural is a proven performer over these stiff fences but he will do well to win under

2.40 ONE MAN NOVICE CHASE (CLASS B) £15,000 C4 852-F1 COURSE DOCTOR (14) (D) (Fichard Johnson) G M Moore 6 11 4 ______ J Calleghan dark bits and white dismands, stoped shows and cap 062-12 WHIP HAND (16) (8F) B.ady Lloyd Webba) J FitzGenid 7 11 4 ______ E Calleghan ements green and purple districts, purple aboves, questions of a 649-3 SMPLE ANITHMETIC (16) (Nating Cuto MCS) K Balley 10 11 0 ...

white, royal bite spots, puspis alleans and cap
—7 declared—
BETTEME: 2-1 Whip Head, 3-1 No Retries, 4-1 Gleshower, 5-1 Simple Arthresis, 11-2 Course Declare, 20-1 Carillele Bundlin's, 100-1 Crego Rose.

FORM GUIDE

Course Doctor: Hurties winner at Carlele and heavily backed on chasing debut there when a lest-fence taker (held at the time). Ayr winner next time over this trip and still While Hand: Smart winning hurder and excellent cheeing form, beeting the well re-gested Good Vibes at Market Resen and then a close 2nd to Dawn Leader at New-

person coold value a main respect to the cool over hurdes

No Rebrest: A dual chase winner in New Zeeland and proved 6 lengths too good for
Ever Bleesed in a small field at Newbury. Held a fitness advantage there but still the Papers. Note: University last fence failer at Musealburgh back in February but well

held when filling third place behind Running de Cerley at Hereford on reappearance. Stiff tank today Glashower: Jumped well until lest-lence mistake when 3rd to Arders Scout and Birkdebt et Carifice (2m4) on chasing debut. May find across of these too good.

Simple Arithmetic: Has had little racing over fences since a fine spel over hundles.

Liely to be better for seasonal 3rd to Brother Of Iris st Huntingdon and stable has

notched a couple of recent who Cregg Rose: Moderate mans who has little hope in this grade VERDICT: While Hend has the best form of these but there could just be a doubt about his stamins over this longer trip in the testing ground. NO REFREAT had the chasing experience in New Zeeland and did nothing wrong when sent down to Newbury. This is a stemer test but he looks a promising novice and helt taken to outstay the tayouts. Steeple Arithmetic his no out of the argument, especially with his stablements Bethy's Boy returning to form at Utboster in the week.

3.10 STANLEY RACING NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS B) £7,500 added to stakes 2m 4f Penalty Value

2-1111 PETERSEN MOUSE (26) (R.I Graham) G M Moore 4 11 8 grates tested, torpooler abover and cap with tester stope 03-1U BLUESHAAN (21) (D) (BF) (J E Brown) C Mens 5 11 3

BETTING: 5-4 Peterson House, 5-2 Bluestonn, 7-2 Michattie, 6-1 Highland Jack, 25-1 Brief Suepence, Gallage.
1997: Native Strone S 11 6 Mr.K.R. O'Rwan (7) awares fay (C Menn) 8 non-

FORM GUIDE

Petersen House: Continues to progress since his bumper win and has landed hardle wins at SedgeSeld, Bangor, Heithern (best older rivate) and a handcap at Watherby lest time (best Virtuoso over 2 lengths). Promises to do even better for this step up

Bluesheer: Middle-distance performer in France and trotted up from Lord Richfield (Uticoster wriner in the week) over this trip at Chepstow on reappearance. Was facing in the three-miler won by Calling Wild there when unseeting two out. Returns to a

ence: Kept on in the closing stages when 5th of 18 runners in the race won tempt since February Gallways trish raider who is hard to fancy even for the step up in trip after his Aintree run lest Saturday when a 29-length 5th to Skander A Azam

Highland Jack: Wincenton chase winner two years ago and hurdes second to Tau-tan Boy at Accol on responsance. May have found three-mile trip too far at Newtury afterwards when 3rd to Wincidess Man Michettle: Winner over 'mill and tred in New Zeeland and his trainer holds him in high regard, so his chance must be respected this afternoon even on this first start for a

VERDICT: Charte Mann is impossing out the winners and his impressive Chapstow winner Blueshaan niverts to a more suitable distance and he receives 5to from the year-younger PETERSEN HOUSE. But it may still not be enough in view of Petersen House's recent form. The Wetherby handloop win test time stamped him as a really approved and an about and, being an ex-bumper horse, he can be expected to improve all the

3.40 LADBROKE FREEPHONE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 4f Penalty Value C4

macherois terino, and sleaves, green and white hooped cap -31832 PARIAH (13) (C) (D) (Miss D Miles) M Todhuraer 9 11 3 while, myel blue and while observors on signess.
F225-0 JASON'S BOY (10) (D) (WE Jones) J M Bradley 8 10 10 marron, white seams, clabob on sleaves, whit 611-85 SAMTA JET (77) (D) (G P Edwarts) G M Moore 7 10 2... on siewes, white cap STATE SAMERAGE: (**) (b) is a minimum of min

Minimum welcht: 10st. True transforp welcht: Monauging Man Bat 12th. BETTING: 3-1 Gleadon, 7-2 The Esna, 4-1 Jamero, 5-1 Prince Of Sainte, 11-2 Parish, 7-1 Janua's 1997: Early Drister 9 11 10 J A McCardly 7-2 (O Sharwood) 5 ran

Prisos Of Salate: Yet to win beyond 2m and seems to prefer a sharp course. Carl only be fitter for his seasonal run at Newcastle (2m) a tornight ago but may shrupple under a big weight in the testing ground Glendoe: Emily beat Hooded Hewk at Fontwel almost a year ago and looked booked

Glandoe: Easily peet Pooled Please at Portures arrots a year ago and looked booked for second apet when he hell two out at Stratford on mappearance (sice won by Bat-tery Fired). On a good mark but these stiff fences may prove his undoing Partish: Has proved disappointing eince the Hexham win liest month and may strug-gle again after the leaset fortulous 2nd to Tom Brodie at Ayr (Weish March was clear

when coming a cropper at the last)
The Esner, Jumped these fencies well to best Golden Helic on his responserance (2m) and his Bangor win lest term was gained over today's hip. 7th out of the handicap when

ed by River Lossie here lest time Jacon's Boy: A dual winner at Hereford last season and 7th to Builder Boy there on reappearance. Would not went the ground too sticky ng Fountain: Hard to tency on his modest form since arriving from Ireland and

was pulled up on reeppositance is formight ago. Santa Jet: Has feet-ground wine to his name, the latest at Utiosster when 4 language. too good for Ruth's Boy. May struggle on this much slower surface on his first run to

ero: Won twice at Ludiow towards the end of lest season and leading change in the lower half of the handicap. Returned to Ludiow on responsatione and taked a stem is after that is a separate proper to an account of any separate or any separate or a separate or and the handsap proper to and the little chance after two pulled up efforts and

new from 18th out of the handcap proper VERDICT: The Eans is a course winner and holds a more resistic chance after findang Piwer Lossie top classry for him here lon days ago. But the one they all have to beat is JEMAPO who, unite on his reoppearance, races from the handleap proper. He was a progressive sort test season and jumped particularly wall when gaining his second win at Ludow – a real plus when assessing his chance over those stiff fances.



THE SWEEPER

BY CLIVE WHITE AND NICK HARRIS



El Tel and Turnip's Selhurst showdown

managers will cross swords at club level Crystal Palace in a First Division match at Selburst Park. Graham Taylor and his successor at Lancaster Gate, Terry Venables, are old adversaries but they have never met post-England Coincidentally, both are now back at the clubs where their

managerial careers first flourished Unfortunately, Taylor will not be there in person because he is still recovering from a severe chest and throat infection, for which he has been hospitalised, and it was thought he might be tempted to start bellowing instructions from the bench. Instead Kenny Jackett, the first-team coach, will be in charge of the Watford team.

Former England managers have always either retired or, like Don Revie and Bobby Robson, gone abroad to work. Indeed, before Taylor and Venables resumed their club careers only Sir Alf Ramsey, in modern times, had returned to club football, ever so briefly at Birmingham City in 1977-78.

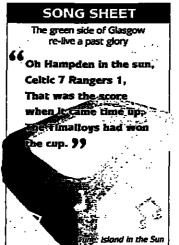
While a BT advert ("it's good to talk") a couple of years ago may have suggested that the two men were on the same wavelength, they have always been poles apart, at least in terms of football ideology. While Venables was infinitely the more successful as an international manager, in head-to-heads Taylor has invariably come out on top. Indeed. Venables has only beaten him once in 11 league and cup meetings, and that was in 1987-88, when he was manager of Tottenham and Taylor was in charge at Aston Villa. On Palace's and Watford's recent form, the trend looks like

TO ALL intents, the death knell of the long established Football Combination and Central League - nowadays

known as the Avon Insurance Combination and Pontins League - was sounded this week at Loughborough when the Football Association's favour of recommending a new open-age regional reserve league, would do so, ever since the Premier talking to Newcastle officials.

FOR THE first time ever. League gave notice that its memtwo former England bers would quit the existing set-up. The new league, however, exceeds the Academy's terms of reference today, when Watford visit when set up a year ago. It was originally only meant to provide for the development of young players between the ages of nine and 21.

It is debatable whether there is anything to be gained from this reorganisation but there is certainly a lot to be lost for clubs like Preston North End and Stoke City. They have fought their way up through the Pontins League to a position where they are playing Manchester United and Liverpool and drawing crowds, in the case of Preston, almost as big as those as they do for first-team fixtures. For these clubs, who are not members of the Academy, it is a bitter blow. "We've worked very hard to get there and we're not keen to



give it up," said David Moyes, the Preston manager. "Some of the clubs are putting out teams worth £20-25m and providing vital experience for our young lads."

WALTER SMITH, the Everton manager, may have been in the dark about Duncan Ferguson's transfer to Newcastle prior to last Monday's game, but it was common knowledge among hundreds of Evertonians. Why? Ferguson's dad was in a pub opposite the ground before the game telling Academy clubs voted four to one in everyone his son had signed for the Geordies. The club continued to deny the rumour throughout the to come into force next season. It evening, even though Ferguson had been an open secret that they could be seen from the street below

THEY MAY have suffered relegation from the Football League last season but Doncaster Rovers are way out ahead when it

comes to self-promotion. This week they signed their biggest ever sponsorship deal, with Beazer Homes, and, on the back of their surprise FA Cup win at Southend recently, one might say, they are milking renewed interest in the club for all it's worth. Following a deal with the local dairy, 15,000 bottles of milk are going into Doncaster homes every day bearing the club crest. Although as the Conference's bottom club, it's not so much a pinta-a-day that they need as a point-a-day.

ARSENAL MAY have been as unimpressive in defeat against Wimbledon last week as they were in midweek when flunking out of the European Cup, but Robbie Earle, the Dons' midfielder, remains a fan. The columnistcum-player was on the phone to his paper, the Observer, immediately after the Premiership game to ask them to promote Arsenal from fourth to third in his mid-season predictions for the later editions, at the cost of

the leaders Aston Villa.

DEFLATED RATHER the elated was more the word for it when the Football League Under-21 squad embarked at Heathrow for their trip to Italy in midweek. The check-in desk for their Alitalia flight to Rome refused to accept 20 inflated footballs so they all had to be individually deflated and then pumped up again at the other end. It's a wonder they still had enough breath left to draw 1-1 draw with their Serie B counterparts.

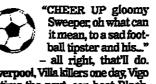
STUART HALL will know exactly how Roy Hodgson felt. It was a knock-

out all right, but not the sort the game show host of the same name once revelled in. The KO for this Stuart Hall, the most successful manager in the history of the Dr Martens League club Halesowen Town came, came as it did for Hodgson, in the shape of the sack. "They said it was by mutual consent." said the blunt-talking Hall, "but all I can say is that there's a bloomin' great hand print on my back!"

AS YOU WERE



THE PRICE IS RIGHT



- all right, that'll do. not making Rupert Murdoch even minutes.

richer, time in to Channel 4 where Parma, brilliant at the back - they have conceded only five goals in ten games - but with problems scoring up front (only 11 so far), may be held Liverpool, Villa killers one day, Vigo to a 1-1 draw by the resurgent victims the next, can beat Black- Milan at home. Milan, for whom the prolific German striker Oliver Patrik Berger is the best value Bierhoff is always a good bet to to be first goal scorer - but if you score first, have scored 15 goals this Lakester v Coventry want to watch a class game of foot-ball, safe in the knowledge you're impossible to contain them for 90 Cottee/2-1 to Leicester (50p at 50-

SATURDAY LIBERO WAGERS (15 x 50p four-timers with Stanley): Chari-

er and a chest wig from his locker. Or that the referee said: "Calm down, son. I know that chunky

sheepskin you saw me in before kick-off looks familiar, but I assure you it's my own. If only you

could keep your temper down a bit, you might have a management career ahead of you."

ton to draw with Everton (12-5); Chalses to best Sheffield Wednesday (1-2); Newcastle to win at Nottingham Forest (11-10); Southampton to beat Derby (6-4); West Ham Southampton to beat Derby (6-4): West Ham to draw with Tottenham (12-5).

Liverpool v Blackburn Score: 2-1 (£1 at 15-2, W Hall, Stanley). First goal: Patrik Berger (E) at 10-1, William

First goal: Other Bierhoff (£1 at 11-2, Corpt and Wilham Hill). ORIGINAL BANK: £100. CURRENT KITTY: £77.52.
TODAY'S BETS: £13.08 (inc £1.08 tau)

SUNDAY CA ITALIAN JOB

WHERE IN THE WORLD?

MANCHESTER UNITED the best in Europe? Not according to the latest European rankings. Despite the evidence of Wednesday's thrilling 3-3 draw in Barcelona, the rankings have United in only 18th place. Filling the top slot are Bayern Munich - the side United must beat next month to qualify for the European Cup quarter-finals.

TOP 20 CLUB RANKINGS

1	(last week's position in brackets)	
ı		Point
	1 (1) Bayern Munich	96.4
j	2 (5) Florentina	
i	3 (2) Marsellles	
ı	4 (8) Bayer Leverkusen	
1	5 (4) Bordeaux	86.6
ì	6 (3) Roma	
	7 (11) Real Mallorca	
	8 (7) Parma	
	9 (10) Dynamo Bucharest	
	10 (18) Milan	
ı	11 (14) Dynamo Kler	
	12 (6) Celta Vigo	
	13 (17) Rosenborg Trondbalm	
ı	14 (15) Juventus	
	15 (16) Partizan Belgrade	
	16 (22) Skakhtar Donetsk	
	17 (20) TSV 1860 Mindch	
	18 (9) Manchester United	
	19 (12) Aston VIIIa	
	70 <i>11</i> 71 P	77 41

MY TEAM



LISA ROGERS

TV presenter on C4's Under the Moon "I was brought up in Monmouth, South Wales where rugby is everything and football's nothing. It was not until I went to university at Loughborough and started living with this in-your-face Man Utd fan and a girl who was an Arsenal fan that I got into it. The best moment I've had since I started supporting was probably the FA Cup quarter-final against West Ham with Nigel Winterburn running up and down like a lunatic after we won. The bizarre thing is, I'm getting married to a Spurs fan. The corner of the house where the scarves are kept is a depraved place. S & M is nothing compared to this."

IN T'NET

Found on the Web: A fine guide to Indian football. India may be ranked 127th in the world (it's only the 22nd best side in Asia), but this site demonstrates there is no lack of passion for the game in the Sub-Continent. As well as up-to-date reports on full and junior internationals, there are features about the history of Indian football, foreigners in the Goan game - 'Goa football fields get a touch of colour from across the globe' even mentions a Scottish coach - and links to club sites and webzines.

http://www.stud.uni-wuppertal.de/~ca0050/Indi-

SEEN BUT NOT BOUGHT

CREWE ALEXANDRA wrapping paper, at £1.50 per sheet, is a better buy than most similar products from other clubs. Not only does a sheet of the red stuff come in handy at the moment for Alex fans wanting to gift-wrap the three points they are giving to each and every side they play, their £1.50 also gets them a gift tag too. This comes in perfect for matches against other clubs at the bottom of the table like Bristol City, Queen's Park Rangers and Oxford United, where the message "See you in the Second Division" can be added as a final touch.

THEY'RE NOT **ALL DENNIS** BERGKAMP

Unsung foreign legionnaires No 15 GUY IPOUA: The 22-year-old Cameroon-born striker started his career at Nancy in France and played for Torino in Italy (on loan), Atletico Madrid in Spain, and then Alicante before making the big step up earlier this year (on a Bosman transfer) to Bristol Rovers. Currently on a one-year contract, Guy (pronounced 'Gee') clearly feels minnows like Atletico have something to learn from giants like Rovers. "I just think that, nowadays, with so much competition we have as players, it is important that we travel and see what is happening in other countries. I also think it is important to travel, to get used to different cultures and it has helped me learn different languages. When I was 10 years old, I saw English football on TV and I really liked it and wanted to play here. The clubs I was with in Spain were very big – places like Atletico – but there you were just one of a lot of players and, although Bristol Rovers is a smaller club, you get more individual attention and the training is better." Is a regular in the first team

True story of a game going to the Bulldogs

ONE OF the best sports feature films ever made was Bruce Beresford's The Chib. about a bohemian Australian Rules player who cannot decide whether to devote himself to his sport or spend his days getting stoned. It featured some marvellous scenes centred on the ruthless internecine machinations, the veracity of which was authenticated by Michael Cordell's documentary in the Storyville series, Year of the Dogs (Channel 4, Saturday), the real-life tribulations of Footscray Bulldogs, a breed in imminent danger of being put down by enforced merger - a depressing scenario mirrored by their performances on the field.

the script for The Club, have been described as "life at the top of your lungs", and there death knell. They lose by 87 points. "Too was that kind of feel to Cordell's film, slow too young too stunid." one fan snarls which succeeded despite the fact that the sporting fly-on-the-wall is as much of a cliché as yet another docusoap set in some hotel or shopping centre.

Alan, the coach, is under pressure and, offers his resignation but the board does not perform at a fund-raiser in various states

CHRIS MAUME

> SPORT ON TV



when you hear his half-time team talk, you begin to understand why. He is as inspirational as Graham Kelly with the flu, or Graham Taylor without it, and he limps to The plays of David Williamson, who wrote a climax of "Boys, I can't do any more", which sounds like his own professional slow, too young, too stupid," one fan snarls at them as they leave the pitch.

Things get worse. They play North Melbourne and go down to a record score be-

accept it. The players, though, hold a crisis meeting – "can you turn the camera off watch the rest of the lads train, sitting alone knows what happened. I don't know." He's unique selling point, that he should just relax

gramme pointing out the defeatist language. Nothing more than a spin doctor, though, he wants them to learn some buzzwords, like "professionalism", to use in their interviews. Meanwhile, the pressure mounts on the coach. One old fan defends him: "He's got an implacable record." As they are in the process of losing yet another game, Alan is frantically trying to get through to the bench on the phone but cannot make the connection. It is all so grimly symbolic.

Pat and Jenny Hodgson, a mother and daughter, and faithful to the last shout, have seen it all before but never quite this bad. Between games, when they are not at training, they look through old scrapbooks, or fill Things get worse. They play from the dreaded merger survey. Towards the bourne and go down to a record score between the two sides—132 points. The coach end of the season, as the star players end of the season, they finish bottom. The wheels fell courage to tell him) that he has been a figure Euran.

The club psychologist has a go at rais- refused to spend \$30 on a ticket. "Tm olding morale, going through the match pro- fashioned," says Pat. "I just love them as footballers out there on the field."

After a vote of no confidence from the players, it is all up for Alan, and this time his resignation is accepted. His assistant, Terry "Plough" Wallace, takes over, though the players do not seem too impressed, despite having got their way. They ask him: "What's going to change?"

At his first team talk he rants and raves, but though they rally after a first-quarter massacre, they lose by a point. Plough is livid. "Fantastic effort," he roars, "but what does a fantastic effort mean? Nothing! If I see one guy go out there getting a pat on the back for a good effort, I'll spew up! Because it's not acceptable!"

only the coach. Shortly after, a merger is and take a rise out of himself. averted, the new owners change the name to the Western Bulldogs, to widen their appeal. As I say, no happy endings. I tuned into A Question Of Sport this week

and has scored once this season.

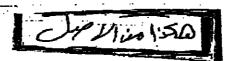
(BBC1, Wednesday) to see how Chris Eubank, that celebrated man from another planet - and, until the rise of Naseem Hamed, the No 1 provider of mocking copy for this column - has been getting on (Though I always used to enjoy giving him a verbal kicking, I have to say that the only time I met him, as he was strolling down a Brighton side street chatting to antique shop owners, he was utterly sweet and charming, with the best-kept skin I've ever seen.)

Perhaps it was being named Live TV's "Silly Punt of the Week", but a strange thing seems to have happened: Eubank has had

So, for example, in the picture round, he thought Tiger Woods pulling his jumper over his head was Nick Faldo. Why? Because Faldo reminds him of Harrison Ford - their "hand rhythms" are similar - and consequently, pulling his jumper over his head 'is

the kind of thing Nick Faldo would do." Later, there was a Home and Away question asking which Olympic sport has Mistrals, Lasers and Tornados. "It's skiing." Eubank said, waving his hands around, "because somewhere along the way, subliminally, I can pick out those words, Mistral,

Tornado..." Cue much baffled hilarity. Eubank even laughed at his lisp. Having been told the terms had nothing to do with sking he ventured "It's some sort of snow sport." And then, articulating what everyone was thinking, he protested. "There are too many S's in this game "Chris



MANDEPENDENT

Way clear for Batty's return to Leeds

NEWCASTLE UNITED have accepted a transfer request from David Batty. The 29-year-old England midfielder submitted his request to manager Ruud Gullit yesterday morning amid speculation that he is about to return to his home-town chib, Leeds United

Gullit confirmed that Batty's days at St James' Park are coming to an end, and said that Newcastle are talking to Leeds about a potential move.

"David Batty has asked for a transfer," the Newcastle manager said. "I knew that it was in the air before I came here. He said to me that he has thought about it already over the summer but tried to give it a second chance. His family lives near Leeds and it was obvious that his family wanted him to come back to Leeds."

Batty's impending departure provoked renewed speculation about the future of Alan Shearer, but Gullit was adamant that his apparent difference of opinion with the striker is in the past.

"Alan wants to stay and I want him to stay," he said. "Now the issue is over. There's no issue anymore."

Shearer, meanwhile, denied reports that Duncan Fergu- his consent and also said that, son, signed this week from Everton, was his choice as his strike partner.

"The senior players at Newcastle have no influence whathave a say on who the manager Greek club, AEK Athens.

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By Damian Spellman

selection, we don't have a say on who the manager buys - and rightly so."

Christian Gross, the former Tottenham manager, is set to out himself in the running to succeed Roy Hodgson as manager at Blackburn.

Germany formally entered the race to stage the 2006 World Cup finals yesterday when they handed in their initial bid document to the Fifa president, Sepp Blatter.

Southampton have called off the signing of Joey Beauchamp from Oxford United after failing to agree personal terms with the midfielder. This follows the collapse of the proposed swap of Cariton Palmer for Barnsley's Darren Barnard.

Steve Bruce, the Sheffield United manager, insisted yesterday that he and his board are in harmony over transfer policy after reports said that he and the directors have been in discord during the recent sale of Gareth Taylor to Manchester City and the possible transfer of Dean Saunders to Benfica.

Bruce confirmed Taylor's £400,000 move took place with notwithstanding a bid from Benfica, neither he nor his board want to sell Saunders.

Oleg Blokhin, the former Dynamo Kiev and Soviet Union international midfielder, has England captain said. "We don't taken over as the coach of the



West Ham supporters gather to watch the team go through their paces at their Chadwell Heath training ground yesterday

David Ashdown

Nilsen returns to boost the Blades

date their position at the top of the Nationwide League First Division when they make the trip to promotion hopefuls Sheffield United this afternoon.

Sunderland's new signing, Gavin McCann, will start the game on the bench after his £500,000 move from Everton, while, for the Blades, Roger Nilsen is back from suspension and returns at the heart of the defence. Their manager Steve Bruce also has his striker Lee Morris fit to fill the hole left by the departure of Gareth Taylor to Manchester City.

The Bury captain Chris Lucketti believes their Lancashire derby against Bolton would be the perfect time to record their first away win of the season.

By DAVID ANDERSON

"Derby games always have a special atmosphere and there's no reason why we can't go there and get a result," he said. Paul Warhurst could make his Wanderers debut after joining on

a month's loan from Crystal

Palace and their manager Colin

Todd believes he will be a useful acquisition. "It's good to have Paul here because he's capable of playing different positions on the pitch,"

Todd said. The Birmingham manager Trevor Francis is refusing to panic ahead of their match against the relegation-threat-

side lose their last two games. "The League position does not concern me at this stage," he said. "Points are more important and we are seven better than we

were at this stage last season."

The Portsmouth defender Andy Thomson is determined to prove to manager Alan Ball that. he deserves a regular starting place with a composed performance at Stockport. Thomson. who has had an ankle injury, gets his chance because Adrian Whitbread and Russell Perrett are both missing

"If I get that chance I know I have to take it because I want to show I can be a valuable member of the defence at Pompey," Thomson said.

The division's bottom club

at Gresty Road today without Dave Walton and Seth Johnson, to the annoyance of their manager Dario Gradi. "This is just our back at the moment," he said. "We face one of the best teams in the division and two of our best players are out."

Tranmere's manager John Aldridge has called for a big effort from his depleted side against Port Vale at Vale Park today. "It does not look healthy with all the injuries and suspensions, but we must knuckle down," he said. "We don't want to find ourselves in a bottom-four

Bradford City's manager, Paul Jewell, wants the same display, but a different result from the players will want to go out their recent 2-1 defeat against and put things right."

Queen's Park Rangers at Valley Parade today. "I've had calls all week to say that is the best Bradford City have played for a long time," he said. "All that was missing was the goals."

Swindon's manager Jimmy Quinn has called on all his players to remain committed to the club - even if they are out of the first-team picture. Swindon travel to Grimsby tomorrow and he said: "At a club like Swindon. where I am unable to bring in new players, I need everyone available to me."

The Grimsby manager Alan Buckley had his squad in for Sunday training after last Saturday's defeat at Bury and he said: "I feel

Lowndes plans his Rangers revenge

SCOTTISH FOOTBALL

BY KEN GAUNT

THE ST JOHNSTONE striker Nathan Lowndes is looking forward to gaining his revenge against Rangers in the Scottish League Cup final tomorrow after dismissing his side's recent 7-0 drubbing as "a fluke".

The former Watford man has created a huge impression since arriving at McDiarmid Park - he scored twice against Hibernian in the quarter-finals. All was going well for Lowndes and his teammates until a fortnight ago, when Rangers came calling in the Premier League.

Paul Kane's dismissal opened the floodgates and cast widespread doubt about Saints' ability to mix it with the top teams - but the Perth club bounced right back by chalking up victories against Celtic and then Aberdeen last week.

"The Rangers result was a fluke, we looked at the tape after the game and we played quite well in patches," Lowndes said. "A few home truths came out of the meeting as we analysed the match.

"We got any disappointment out of our system right away by beating Celtic, and that gave everyone a huge lift. Every player believes we can get a result against Rangers. We are not just going to Celtic Park for a day out. We know we have to be positive and confident."

Coventry v Bedford (3 0): Rugby v Leiceste (3 0): Sale v Orreli (3 0)

Darlo's faithful few waiting for worm to turn

IT MIGHT seem odd for some- to Feethams than the River- oned. However, fired by with supporters of Chester, apart from all the existing mid-table-not helped by a cou- stars thanks to Hodgy's con-Third Division football club, but contrasting in the club's hisdoes have its advantages. The Impossible, has faithfully ob-Quakers, as they are nick- served the goings on at named, or Darlo, as they are more commonly known, do it and in March of next year a make you appreciate when 10th anniversary bash will take the good times arrive. Not for us the constant craving or ceaseless selfish quest for trophies and league championships - survival first by selling players and anything else on top of that has always been very much a bonus.

Geographically, Darlington stands 15 miles from their

Feethams for the best part of place in the club's redeveloped £2.5m East Stand.

sight would have been untling to avoid relegation to the Conference and it was not until that month Darlo won a home game in the League in '88-89. All to no avail as we blew Premiership neighbours Mid- it big time in a crunch six-point-

one born and bred in Teesside side. The past decade has Richard Corden's money and Hull and Oxford United - it Football League clubs is that ple of home postponements nections. One of them, the to have ended up watching a probably been one of the most Brian Little's inspiration the could so easily happen to us. Feethams is the only current due to the state of the Austrian Mario Dorner, aver-Quakers returned to their supporting Darlington FC tory. The fanzine I edit, Mission rightful place one year later. Since then we have had one

promotion, as Division Four champions in '90-91, a trip to the Third Division play-off final at Wembley against Plymouth in May '95, one relegation and three further attempts to drop Back in March 1989 such a out of the League again.

There is only so much thinkable, the club were bat- money the club can afford to spend without going out of business. There is a community feel among the fans that tends to get lost the higher up the League you go, and it is this spirit that keeps you going in diesbrough, whose training er with Colchester and the ground at Hurworth is closer non-League trapdoor beck-

Many of the things that attracted me to Feethams in the

FAN'S EYE **VIEW**

DARLINGTON BY STEVE HARLAND

first place have since disappeared under the weight of the Taylor Report - no longer can the fans change ends. But one piece of trivia that sets Darlo

ground that shares its facilities with a cricket club. This season, under director

management (in his second Bennett (Scarborough) and Marco Gabbiadini inspired the en run that took us to the very pinnacle of the Third Division. Since then, however, the sale of Canadian defender, Jason De Vos, to Dundee United for £400,000, under the jurisdiction of the club's owner Mike Peden, a Stratford-upon-Avon property developer, has con-

tributed to the team's slide into

Feethams pitch. Apparently the new stand

was constructed above an old of coaching Dave Hodgson's sewer which has since caused drainage problems. Advice spell), the signings of Craig came from a most unlikely Liddle (Middlesbrough), Gary source, Manchester United, source, Manchester United, who had been having problems supporters. We now have a of their own. The signing of team to a five-match unbeat- 500lb worth of worms was the result. Hopefully they will have disappeared by the time we Away Far Travelling Supportplay United's arch-enemies, ers), and a thriving online Manchester City, in the second round of the FA Cup.

Our neighbours Middlesbrough may rely on their foreign imports to attract the Darlo have their own overseas

aged a goal every two games last season. The former Sunderland player Gabbiadini has Italian blood in him. One of the most progressive developments at Feethams

has occurred via the club's own supporters' club, three fanzines, an exiles' organisation called DAFTS (Darlington community that consists of official and unofficial websites, message boards and a discussion group calling itself Virtual Quakers. Not bad when crowds at the Riverside but you consider our attendances average around 4,000.

20 Chesterfield v Macclesfield

FOOTBALL

3.0 unless stated Nordingham Forest v Aston Villa

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NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE
FIRST DIVISION
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10 Botton v Bury
11 Bradford City v OPR

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16 Stockport v Portsmouth SECOND DIVISION 18 Bristol Rovers v Oldham 19 Burnley v Blackpool

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Leeds

Liverpool

10 Tettenham

12 Leicester

13 Chariton

14 Newcastie

15 Shelf Wed

17 Coverstry

18 Notto Forest

19 Southampton

20 Blackburn

21 Colchester v Millwall 22 Gillingham v Fusham 23 Luton v Manchester City 24 Preston v Wigan 25 Reading v Lincoln City... 26 Waisall v Bournemouth 28 Wycombe v Stoke 29 York v Northampton . THERD DIVISION

SCOTTISH POOTBALL LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION AZ ANT V St. Mirren

43 Clydebank v Raith Rovers ... 44 Fakkrik v Hamilton.....45 Strauraer v Morton SCOTTISK SECOND DIVISION 48 East Fife v Stirfing (2.0) ... 49 Forlar v Inverness CT

Partick v Livingston SCOTTISH THERD DIVISION **FOOTBALL CONFERENCE**

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Chetenham v Rushden ...
Farmbonough v Southport ...
Hereford v Doncaszer ...
Kettering v Forest Green ...
Kingstonion v Northwich ...
Leek v Kiderminster ...
Morecambe v Welling ...
Stevenage v Teiford ...
Woking v Hayes
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NEEKEND FIXTURES AND POOLS CHECK

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ton Police; Southall v Croydon Athletic.

DR MARKTENS LEAGUE Premier Division:
Bromsgrow v Bait: Burton Ablon v
Grantham; Cambridge City v Atherstone, Gresley Rovers v Gloucester; King's Lynn v Dorchester; Merthyr Tydfil v Rochwell; Nuneaton
Borough v Halesower; Salisbury v Reston;
Lamworth v Boston Utz; Weymouth v Hastrings; Worsters v Crawley, Melland Divisions:
Bedworth v VS Rugby; Blakenall v Stamford;
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Bedworth v VS Rugby; Blakenall v Stamford;
Cinder front v Sourforder; Cerector v Bliston;
Sestham v Shepshed Dynamo, Hinckley Utd
v Newport (Gwent); Paget v Racing Warvick;
Solfmid v Blasskich; Soufford v Recidioch; Suton Coldifield v Weston-super-Mare; Websch v
Noor Green, Soutsbern Divisione Chelmsford v Vatte; Cirprestor v Brackley; Darston
v Anford: Fleet v Bashey; Follesstone Indica
v Andower; Havant, & Watersloodile v Fisher;
Margate v Corby; Raunds v Torbridge; Stchegbourne v Baiklock; St. Leonards v Newport (viv. Winney v Erith & Belvedere.

LIBERDOND LEAGUE Premier Division: Ac-

port IoW: Winney v Erfor is Belvedere.

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R, CARLSBEERG WASE Second round: Os-

bion v Gretra.

FA CARE SEERERG VASE Second round: Ossett Town v Seaham Red Star; Garforth v Prescot Cables; Bedlington Terriers v Ruma-bottom; North Ferfally v Worldrigton; Billingham Synthonia v Rive Law; Oltheroe v West Auckland; Eccleshit v Hallam; Dunsson FB v Maine Road; Vaunhalf GM v Easington Colledy; Mossley v Consect. St Heiers v Morpeth; Brandon v Liversedge; Billingham Roun v Chester-le-Street; Warrington v Louth; Heimor v Rushall Olympic; Mickleover Sports v Stodeloid; Spaliting v Rocesser; Birstall v Dodby, Highfield Rangers v Holweit Sports; Staveley MW v Nantonich; Armold v Wrodham; Chasetown v Habon; St Andrews v Button; Goole v Meir KA; Instock Welfare v Bedford Fown; Kidsgrove v Bolehall Swifts; Kington v Okthury; Falsenham v Epsom & Ewelt Loweston v Nooting & Micham; Soffon Welden v Sudbury Rown; Eurbridge Wells v Ash; Abhlegdon Town v Letchworth; Bangtaed v Hassocks; Thachem v Garmagate; Barldrigstide v Tiporee; Hardow v Grant Makering Rowers; Woodbridge v Redriftl; Mildenhall v Herne Bay; Tharmesmead v Brache Sparta; Neuwarher v Aweley; Northwood v Buckingham Parhietic; Oscor v Buckingham Tarn; Burgess Hill v Camberley; Chipstend v Windsor & Econ; Thetford v Sudbury Wanderers; Horsham v MCA v Deal; Royston v FA CARLSRERG VASE Second round: Oc.

North Leigh: Potters Bar v Ford Utd: Cob-ham v Stowmarket; Bovers v Basildon; Diss v Vadey; Woldingham v Sidey; Cheshant v Wick; Ess Thurrock v St Neots: Bicester v Thame; Bernerson Heath Harlequins v Swin-don Supermarine; Newquay v Hangerford; Taunton v Bridport; Bracombe v Twerton; Minchad v Melisham; Davissh v Fair ford; Lymington & New Milton v Wellington; Bid-lington v Porthleen; Barnstaple v St Blazey, Until ET STERSEN COUNTY V LEAGUE Pre-

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Division: Eastbourne Und v Broadbridge
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v Whitoshawis; Sakdean v Lizidehampton.
John O'Harra Langum Cup third rounds
Chichester v Three Bridges.
ARMOTT INSURANCE NORTHUREN
LEASUE First Division: Crook v Newcaste Blue Star; Guisborough v Pentin; Stockton v Stilldon; South Shields v Marshe.
MORTH WIESTERN FRAMES LEAGUE First Steimerstate v Rossendale.

RYTERLENY SUPPRISS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Bridgmorth v Barweit; Halesowen
Harriers v Srifmst; Kings Norton v Stapenhilt;
Pelsall Villa v Wednesfield: Pershore v
Sendweil Borough: Stourport Swifts v Willenhalt; Stratford v Boldmere St. Michaels;
West Midlands Police v Knypersiev Victoria.

UMLISPORT UNITED COUNTRES LEAGUE
Premier Philalese: Blocksone v Ford Sports;
Bourne v Potton; Cogenhoe v Boston Town;
Eynesbury v Desborough: Stewarts & Lloyds
Carby v Kernpston; Wellingborough v Long
Buckby; Wootom v Northampton Spencer
JERSSON WESSER ULARGUE: BAT v East

JENISON WIESSEK LEAGURE BAT v East Cover Vice: Chrischurch v Eastleigh; Down-ton v Persmouth RN: Faretam v Cover Sports, Moneyfields v Bournemouth: Whitchurch v Brockenhurs; Wimborne v Tocoo. JEINSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Division: Haistead v Ely, Maldon v Bury Town; Warboys v Fethstowe: Watton v Soham, WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE Premier SCREWPIX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Di-vision: Bishop Sutton v Yeovit Town; Bristol Menor Firm v Crippenham; Caine v Bacievett, Keynsham v Bideford; Odd Down v Man-

gotsheit; Westbury

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE

Prumier Dichiose: Denaby v Selby; Maltby
v Armthorpe; Pontefract v Ossert Albion;
Sheffield v Pictoring; Thactiev v Brigg,
LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth v Hotywell (2.30); Afan Lido v Bangor Chy (2.30); Serior Conwey to
Camarthen v Rhyl (2.30); Hoestown v Inter Cabletel Cardiff (2.30); Rhapader v Conwy (2.30);
ThS Llansantfirald v Cumbran (2.30).
PRESS & JOURDIAL HEGH AND LEAGUECachiacudth v Cow Rangers; Deveronsle v Wick Academy, Eighu v Fort William; Forres v Rothes: Fraserburgh v Bockie Thistie;
Hurthy v Kelth; Naim County v Brora Rangers;
Peterhead v Lossiemouth.

SEMENOUP BUSH LEAGUE Premier Di-

RUGBY UNION WORLD CUP EUROPEAN QUALIFYING ZONE POOL THREE

Scotland v Portugal (2.30) (at Murroyfield, Edinburgh) INTERNATIONAL MATCH COLIS COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP Fluid: Vorkshire v North Midlands (11.45) (or Finiciantum).

Vortishire v North Midlands (11.45) (or North-Nelckenhorn).

CHELTREHHAM AND GLOUCESTER CUP-First round first lag: Fylice v Waterioo [12.0]. Relissow Nationala. LLANGUE GORE [2.30]. Birmingham/Solfhuli v Camberley, Harrogate v Manchester, Luerpool St Heless v Northingham; Newbory v Whar Fedale (3.0), Oticy v Lydney (2.15); Rangham Perk v Henley Two Borth (2.30); Aspatria v Lichfleit. New Brighnou v Sandal, Numeaton v Preston Grassisoppers, Sheffleit v Sedgley Park; Stouthridge v Hindley: Walsalf v Withchurd; Winnington Park v Kendal. Tare South [2.30]; Barding v Metropolitan Police. Bracineil v Meston-super-Man (2.15); Cheltenharo v Reduct, Cilfron v Hawant, Esher v Bridgwater (3.0); North Walsalm v Tabard; Plymouth v Norwich. LSK NATIONAL LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

PREMIERS DIVISION
Aberavon v Lianell (2.30)
Bridgend v Newport (2.30)
Ebbiw Vale v Caesphilly (2.30)
PRIST DIVISION (2.30): Blackwood v
Rondur Danneart v Newbridge: Llandovery v
Maesteg; Pontypool v Aberdillery; Rumney v
Merdyr; South Wales Polko v Bonymaen: Tedegar v Treonchy; UWIC v Cross Reys.
TENNENTS VEEMET CUP Fearth reanel:
Langholm v Linkingow (1.30),
TENNENTS VEEMET BOWL. Hirst reanel:
Lamilton Acads v Whitherrags (1.30),
TENNENTS VEEMET SHIELD Pleas reanel:
Irinly Acads v Annah (1.30),
CLUB MATCH: Cambridge University v
Cardin University (3.0). HOCKEY

HOCKEY

SOUTH Premier: Backenham v Farcham; Biacineari v Wolfingham; Boumerrouth v Anchorlans; Chy of Potramouth v Gore Cours; fligh Wycombe v Chichester: Old Crarleighurs v Puriev Walcounstans; Richmond v Maideohead; Turbridge Wells v Clid Whitgiffiams; Minchester v Herne Bay DTZ MIDLANID Premier: Edgbaston v Covency & N Warndick Nempoon-Anden v North Notus; Ralas v Leek, Northigham v North Staffort; Otton & W Warndick v Northampton Sains; Shrewbury v Harborne.

PREMIER HOLDIANS RAST Premier: Bedford Town v Cambridge City; Bishops: Southord v Blueharts; Colchester v West Herts; Crostyx v Cambridge Uhri; Ipswich v Cladton NOKETH Premier: Bowdon v Formby; Chester v Sheffield Barders; Norton v Harriggte; Rocherham v Durham Uhri; Southort v Neston; Warrington v Ben Rhydding.
WEST OF BHGLAND & SOUTH WALES Premier: Cheltenham v Durham Unic; Southort v Robinsors v Stanness: West Willis v Gourceter City; Wilnchurch v Wieston-Ruper-Mart; Yeovil & Sherborne v Bath Bucchangen.

INCOMENTS END. Premier: Doncaster v Highton (2.0); Citon Terraquest v Ipswich (Arden Lann School, Henley) in Arden 12.0; Sough v Fiftes Leicester (12.0); Sutten Coldfield v Cliffon Scottish Life (11.30). First Division:

Aidridge v Bradford (2.0); Catterbury v Tro-lans (12.0); Sunderland Ashbrooke v Lough-borough Students (1.0); Wimbledon v Chevnizhot Highway (12.0); Second Dhishans Bracknell v Old Loughtonians (2.0); Ealing v Poynton (1.30), St Abbans v Wolking (1.0); Sherwood v Hampton-in-Arden (12.0); SHOWENES ANDLAND Premaler: Crimson Ramblers v Bedford, Kettering v Belger, Luton v Loughborough Students, North Staffs v Ofton & West Warwick. WROMEN'S NOATH First Division: Black-pool v Liverpoot, Don Valley v Deeside Ram-blers; Sheffield v Chester, Winnington Park v Leyland Motors

Vale v Bournercouth.
WOMBER'S SOUTH First Division: City of
Portsmouth v Reading: Dutwith v Tatse Hill;
Maidenhead v Southampton; West Witney v
Rover Coving, Winchester v Hendon,
WOMBER'S TRYSPORTS THREE COURTIES,
First Divisions Brached v Output Hawks, City
of Oxford v Sonning, Famham Common v West
Witney: Henizy v Mitton Keynes; Newbury v
Phoenic-Ranelagh, Rover Covincy v Woking-ham; Windsor v Oxford Unix, Wycombe Rye
v Roading.
WOMBER'S SEEDLAND BANK HIRLSH Premaior: Colvyn Bay v Penarth; Cymnawe v

BASKETBALL

ICE HOCKEY SEKONDA SUPERLEAGUE: Cardiff v Aye (7.30): Northgham v Newcastle (7.0); Sheffield v Bracknetl (7.0).

OTHER SPORTS BORGING World Boding Organisation Inter-continental middleweight championship R Rhodes (Sheffield) v M Esporza (US) (Hils-borough). Vacant British and Common-wealth championships: D Corbett (Bellest, Commonwealth champions) v B Scott (Hack-ney) (Uster Hall, Bellast) SNOOMIST: Uverpool Victoria UK Champion-ship (Bournemouch)

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL FOOTBALL
FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP
Arsenal v Micidestrough (3.0)
Liverpool v Blackburn (4.0)
Manchester Utd v Leeds (2.0)
NUTIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE
PREST DIVISION
Norwich v Oxfort Utd (1.0)
West Bromwich v Wolves (1.0)
SOOTISM LEAGUE CUP PRIMAL
Rangers v S. Johnstone (3.0)

SCOTTISH LEARNING COFF FRANCIS (at Celair Park, Glasgow) HARP LASSER NATIONAL, LEAGUE OF RED, AND Premier Divisions Bray Westerers of Shantock Rovers (3 15); Derry City v Cork Class (3 15);

RUGBY UNION CHEXTENNAM AND GLOUCESTER CUP Pirst round first leg: Blackheath v London Scottish (3 0): Bristol v Wakefield (2.30): Coventry v Bedford (3 0): Rugby v Leicester (3 0): Sale v Orrell (3 0)
TRIMBERTS VELIMET CUP Pourth round (1 30): Allos v Stewartry, Bigger v Ress; Editory it Acas v Boroughmair, Gata v Ayr, Gasgow Hawsks v Dunder HSFP Hawick v Currle (2 30): Rivarrock v East Ribhider, Rivically v Aberdeen GSFP (3 0): Metrose v Hill-head Jordschild: Morgan Acad FP v Heriot's FP. Massechurgh v West of Scotland, Peobles v Haddington, Pertainher v Morgan/feld, Preston Lodge v Cumnock, Watsoniarts v Hutcheson's Advalants
TENNAMETS VELIMET BOWN. Piret reseat (1 30): Bishopton v Highland; Cumbernaud v Ross Sutherland, Durnities v Lockaber, Dung v Carnouste HSFP, Editologis Northern v Garnock. Edinburgh Royal Infernary v Passies; Editologis Royal Infernary v Passies; Editologis HSP, Edinburgh v Corstorphine; Leith Acads v Hillones: Madias Coll FP v Brougston FP. Moray v Oydebank; RAF Kinloss v Mackle Acad FP. Stratherdrick v Royal High; Wightownshire v Hawick VM.
TERMENTS VELIMET SHEELD First reseat (1 30): Berwick v Grangernouth, Carobasiang v Glangow Southern, Dazide v Hovie of Fife; Genothers v Carrick; Gordonians v Alan Gen's Generic Health of Landing FP v Durdermiline; Linden Irvine v Strathmore, Lende v Eton, Lidingston v Stewars S Mehville FP. Ross High v Cartha Queen's Park; Royal Dick VC v Hawick Linden; Sc Bosnells v Porrobello PP. Stratherdrick S Bosnells v Porrobello PP. Stratherdrick S Bosnells v Porrobello PP. Stratherdrick S Bosnells v Porrobello PP. Stratherdrick v Schirk.

Bill. Premier (2.0): Beeston v Beroklands, East Grinsland v Cannock; Guildford v Bournelle (12.0): Hourstow v Reddington; Reading v Old Longtrochers, Scuttigere v Can-terbury, Pirst Dhisland (2.0): Barford Tigers v Sheffield, Cheinstord v hait; Donassier v Harbar; Firebands v Loughtorough Stu-dents (1.0): Harleston Magnes v St. Albans Isca v Hampsread & Westminster, Corford Handres v Lewes; Catrod Link v Eastrote; Steurport v Bromley (1.30); Surbiton v Indian Gynithana (2.30). WORLDAYS (Srt. Prespier: Slough v Doncaste (Southgate HC, 11 30)

ICE HOCKEY #BRORDA SUPERLEAGUE: Ayr v Brackell 6 30), Cardiff v Notdogham (6.0); Manchester v London (6.0), Sneffield v Newcastle (6.30),

OTHER SPORTS

TRANSFERS

FULL TRANSFERS Duncan Pergusson (forward) Everton to Nev-castle Utd (£7/m); Jans-Michael Rurel (mid-fielder) Israndulspor (Rariq to Everpool (£12m); Craig-Hignatz (midfielder) Aberthen to Barrel-ley (£800,000); Galesia McCanas (midfielder); Evernon to Suprigeriand (£500,000) Garrach Rep-leve (novaerd) Sherfreid Utd to Mayochester City (£400,000); Nigna Peppar (midfielder) Brad-ford to Aberdeen (£300,000); Janstin Wall-tie (defender) Stole to Hull; Garrach Wall-fielders (£300,000); Santin Wall-tie (defender) Stole to Hull; Garrach Wall-(Rovaerd) Sacriporcught to Hull.

LOANS Matt Hamlett (midficider) Bristot City to Burnley, Paul Warlanse (midficider) Crystal Palace to Bolton: Alan Lae (forward) Asson Wile to Brotaty: Smn Alaston (midficider) Sun-derland to Crester.

Football: Gianluca Vialli's purchase of Albert Ferrer for £2.2m may yet turn out to be the bargain of the season Less pressure makes Chappy happy

By Ian Stafford

IF ALBERT FERRER had been told six months ago that he would be playing this season for Chelsea in the English Premiership, the little Spanish defender would have laughed at such a ridiculous thought.

He was Barcelona through and through, Spanish players do not play in England and he had a World Cup in France to look forward to, a World Cup in which, this time, Spain would do themselves some justice.

Yet here we are now in November and Ferrer, after yet another disappointing World Cup display by his country, can be found plying his trade with Luca Vialli's cosmopolitan Chelsea team, and doing rather well. To his surprise, Ferrer is enjoying every minute of his new life.

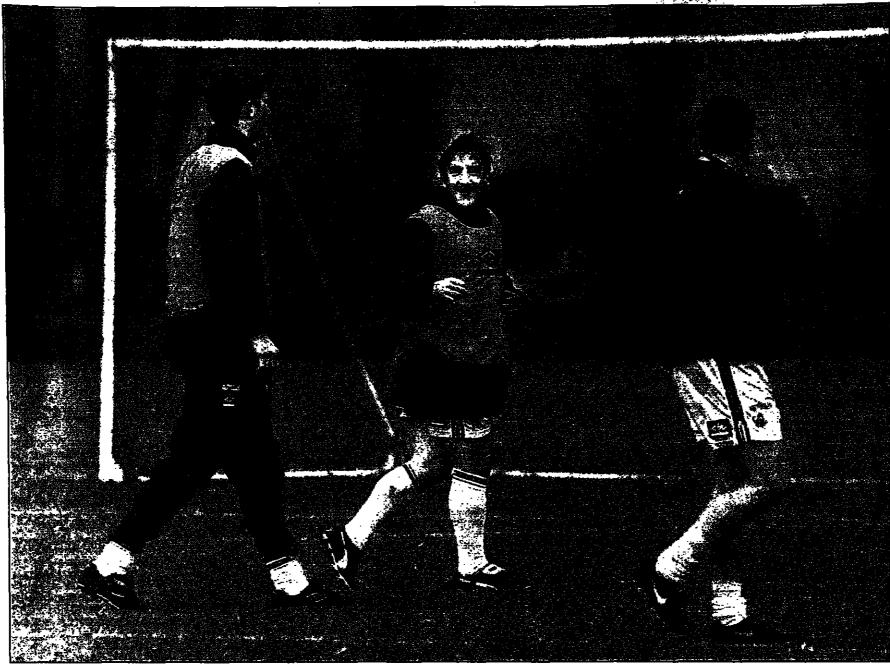
"Nobody knows who I am in England, and that's the way I like it," he said, as he sits in the restaurant of the Chelsea training ground and eyes up the pasta on offer. "Life is

In what way? "Every game for Barcelona was pressure," he explained. "We were supposed to win the League championship every season, and the European Cup. If not, then we failed. If we lost one game, then it was a crisis. There would be 50 journalists at training every morning and, whenever I walked in the streets of the city, everybody knew me."

He sounded glad to be shot of Barcelona, but this is palpably not true. Ferrer supported Barça from virtually the moment he could first talk. He would follow his team religiously each week from high in the Nou Camp stadium. At 13 he signed for the Catalans as a schoolboy player, easing his way through the junior sides until becoming a permanent fixture for both Barcelona and the Spanish national team.

Coached by Johan Cruyff, and playing alongside the likes of Romario, Hristo Stoichkov and Ronald Koeman, Ferrer won 35 caps, together with a European and European Cup-Winners' Cup medal, as well as countless domestic honours. Then, last year, it all went sour as the new coach. Louis van Gaal. decided to exert his Dutch influence by importing five players from his

"It was a terrible season for me," Ferrer recalled, his happy little face changing into a deep frown. "At the end Van Gaal asked to see me. De la Peña and Pizzi, all international players. He told us he wanted to I wondered how the man who had bring in new players to replace us."



Albert Ferrer (centre), sharpening his skills in a Chelsea training session, is settled again after the shock departure from his beloved Barceloua

Was our man surprised at this sudden news? "I couldn't believe it." Ferrer answered. "I'd been a Barcelona players for 15 years, a first-team player for eight years. I'd no life after Barcelona." played in nearly all the games, and won a lot of trophies. Now he comes in and tells me I can't play any more because he prefers someone else."

He shook his head at the memory. dreamed of wearing the blue and red

of Barcelona as a small boy had felt that night when he returned home to his wife. "I was very sad, and I was very worried," he said. "I could see

But there was, and it came in the form of Chelsea FC. Vialli snapped him up for a mere £2.2m which, in these heady days, is already becoming one of the bargains of the season, and Ferrer has since played in nearly all of Chelsea's matches -

some achievement bearing in mind the rotation system at Stamford

What made the 28-year-old plump for Chelsea, though? "Oh, it was not too difficult. I knew Chelsea had become one of the top clubs in Europe again, and I knew they had many world-class players. I think the most important thing for me, though, was that Gustavo Poyet was here, was happy, and was playing well."

The link between Poyet, the Uruguayan international midfielder. and Ferrer is not immediately obvious. "Gustavo speaks Spanish, and that makes a big difference to me. My English is not so good." I told him it is better than some English players speak. He laughed. "Maybe, but at first it was so bad. Gustavo was very kind to me when I first

came to Chelsea."

Spanish player. After all, the Italian. French and German-strewn Premiership is hardly awash with Spaniards. "I think I am the only one,"

Ferrer confirmed. It begged the obvious question: where are the others? "Players in Spain still believe the Spanish League is very strong. I don't know why, but Spanish players always prefer to play at home.

very surprised to see me going to

They hear that I am happy and playing well. I still speak to a lot of my former team-mates, friends like Sergi and Nadal They are also thinking now that they can come to England. Others, I think, are not ready for such a move."

Ferrer clearly, was. He reckoned it took him just a couple of matches to become familiar with Premiership football. "It's very different to Spanish football, that's for sure," he said. "In Spain there is normally a five or 10-minute period during a game where you can rest a little. Here it is non-stop for 90 minutes. The pace is so much faster.

Is this a problem? "No, no," he insisted. "I like it this way. I am a physical player, and it suits me. Also, I think I am becoming a better player, because it is making me have less time to think and make decisions.'

Maybe his contribution to England's current form team will be noticed back at the Nou Camp? Ferrer shakes his head. "I don't think so." he says. "Van Gaal will not change his opinion of me. He is the type of man who is always right. Maybe, one day, I will return to Barcelona, in a non-playing role. But I am happy here, my wife and I like London, have a five-year contract, and I will stay here until I am at least 33 years

With an apartment in London's swish Chelsea Harbour, and a burgeoning social life, Ferrer is happy to swap the Ramblas for the King's Road. "I have been to many shows." he told me. "My wife and I went with other players and their families to see Saturday Night Fever and Grease. And I also saw Beauty and the Best'

"Beast," I corrected him. "It's Beauty and the Beast."

"Ah yes, sorry, sorry," the likeable Ferrer said. "You see, my English." Still, it works both ways. His nickname at Chelsea is "Chappy". I asked him why. "In Spain I am known as 'Chapa'. It's the word for the top of the water bottle you push down." He slammed the palm of his hand down to show me what he

means. "It is because I am small. "Some of the boys here heard someone call me Chapa and they thought it was Chappy." He shrugged his shoulders, and let out a resigned sigh. "I think I should be Albert. It's better, yes?"

Maybe, but I just got the feeling that "Chappy" will stick with the little man who seems to be well on course My colleagues and friends were to becoming a firm favourite at



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Collymore on trial as Villa test self-belief

AS THE qualifiers begin to BY PHIL SHAW emerge from the Champions' League in Europe, a would-be champions' league is ready to sort the contenders from the pretenders on the domestic front. Between this weekend and Winterval, as the politically correct council on Aston Villa's home patch have renamed the festive season, the six-pointers come thick and fast in the race for the Premiership title.

For Villa, leading by three points, today's short hop to Nottingham Forest is a test of their mettle after losing their unbeaten record to Liverpool. But it is also the prelude to a sequence which pits them against Manchester United, Chelsea and Arsenal - their three closest pursuers - in the space of nine days. Another setback could blow a huge hole in their

self-belief. Stan Collymore is likely to retain his place in Villa's attack against another of his old clubs, despite the outrage over his foul on the Liverpool defender Steve Harkness. The treatment he receives, from the crowd and from former colleagues with whom he was reputedly about as nopular as Pierre Van Hooijdonk is now, will provide a test of temperament he can ill-afford

Collymore's presence will at least take the heat off Van compare the young players been diminished by the injuries

Hooijdonk. For all the controversy surrounding the pair, they boast a solitary goal apiece in the League, against Dion Dublin's seven in three matches for Villa. But for a marginal offside decision and a fine penalty save, Dublin would have had a hat-trick of hattricks, and Forest's fallibility they last won in August - offers

the prospect of further plunder. Manchester United and Chelsea, who tangle twice next month, both face potentially awkward assignments. United, having come through their Catalan inquisition relatively unscathed, will be grateful for the extra day's rest before playing host to fifth-placed Leeds tomorrow.

Although there will be no one of Rivaldo's class in Leeds' line-up, a single defeat in 14 Premiership fixtures suggests a certain obduracy. David O'Leary is unbeaten in the League since being confirmed as manager, and his team will not lack confidence after beating Liverpool in their previous

Leeds' record at Old Trafford Anfield: their only win in 12 visits came in 1981 and they have not scored in the last six. However, it should be instructive to legendary back line has now

O'Leary has championed, especially Jonathon Woodgate and Alan Smith, with Alex Fer-

guson's home-grown crop. Chelsea will under-estimate peril today, notwithstanding an 18-match run without defeat Wednesday are the only club to have besten both Ilnited and Arsenal and have drawn four of their last five at Stamford Bridge.

Yet a more businesslike streak is evident in Chelsea under Gianluca Vialli's managership. They have already taken points on five grounds on which they lost last season. and the Italian will stress the need to be ruthless with a Wednesday side who have gained just four points away from home.

Arsenal's exalted position can not disguise worrying weaknesses as they prepare to receive Middlesbrough tomorrow. Not surprisingly, given Arsène Wenger's reluctance to buy a replacement for Ian Wright, the Double winners have scored fewer goals than anybody in the top half of the table. Indeed Boro's Hamilton Ricard has as many as Nicolas is almost as bad as it was at Anelka, Dennis Bergkamp and

Marc Overmars put together. Highbury still boasts the meanest defence, though the

sustained by Tony Adams and Nigel Winterburn in the bruising battle with Lens. Nearly 60 years have passed since Boro won at Arsenal, but circum-Sheffield Wednesday at their stances may be conspiring to end their wait.

When Liverpool and Blackburn drew 0-0 on Merseyside in January, Roy Evans and Roy Hodgson still harboured hopes of the championship. Reconvening under the "new" management of Gérard Houllier and Tony Parkes, the clubs lie ninth and 20th respectively.

Two autumns ago, early in the third of Parkes' four spells as caretaker-manager, Blackburn began the climb from bottom place with a 3-0 rout of Liverpool. Unless he effects a similar transformation – a task made tougher today by Houllier's need to avoid a fourth consecutive home defeat - they risk being cut adrift.

Duncan Ferguson begins life as Alan Shearer's £7m partner or replacement (depending on who you believe) in Newcastle's attack against Wimbledon's strangely short defence. Ferguson feels he will be at home in a region famous for pigeonfancying; Tyneside has a fancy for a centre-forward who can soar like a bird. He may, nevertheless, need to home in on goal

Frugal Parma entertain Milan

PARMA, WHOSE outstanding defence has conceded just five goals in 10 games this season. play host to Milan in tomorrow's live game on Channel 4. Despite losing 1-0 at Cagliari last Sunday and scoring just 11 times this term. Parma are fifth in Europe's toughest league and showed their class in midweek when comfortably holding Rangers to a 1-1 draw in the first leg of their third round Uefa Cup

tie at Ibrox Park. Milan, third in Serie A after the Brazilian Leonardo's 90th-

ITALIAN PREVIEW

BY IAN DAVIES

minute winner against Lazio at long way to go to recapture the glory years when they were dominant in Europe. But, under Alberto Zaccheroni, the coach who joined them in the summer from Udinese (bringing Oliver Bierhoff, the prolific German striker with him), Milan look a

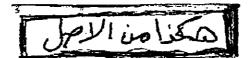
force to be reckoned with. Parma, whose squad in-

cludes the Italian international Ivan Zamorano, the tireless 34goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon, the brilliant French defender Lilian Thuram and the Argentine striker Hernan Crespo, are San Siro last Sunday, have a at full strength, while Milan are missing only the injured Ger-man midfielder Christian Ziege.

Internazionale hit form with a vengeance when beating Real Madrid, the defending champions, 3-1 in the Champions' League on Wednesday. With Ronaldo, their talismanic Brazilian striker, back from injury, Inter were a different side.

year-old Chilean striker, deflected in a Ronaldo shot to give Inter the lead and the veteran playmaker, Roberto Baggio, came on to seal a famous win with two late goals. Inter, sixth in Serie A. look sure to give struggling 17th placed Saleritana a hard time.

Tomorrow night's game is the Roman derby between the injury-hit big spenders Lazio and second-placed Roma.



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With an incortnant m look. awash Chelsara Harland and ale generally sound like Petterish in away the lineables for the fire be toblered My wife and lucase. other players and their families see Salarday Vall Freez Circum Indicate and Rooms "Reast I converted but he

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MDEPINDENT AND STREET the season

Chariton v

Everton

CHARLTON WILL be without suspended Welsh international

John Robinson for the Premiership match with Everton at The

Valley today, as manager Alan Curbishley looks for his side to

respond to the 4-1 drubbing at Leeds last week. But although one midfielder is denied him, Curbishley has

the welcome return of another, Shaun Newton, back after a

lengthy knee ligament injury. Newton scored for the reserves

in midweek but is likely to have to settle for a place on the bench.

new strike partner for visitors Everton, following the contro-

versial departure of Duncan Ferguson to Newcastle last week.

can no longer lump the ball forward in the general direction of

Big Dunc's forehead. Still, they did beat Newcastle on Monday

in an effective – if not pretty – performance, and the return from suspension of Italian defender Marco Materazzi will provide a

further boost. John Collins has recovered from a foot problem.

CHARLION ATHLETIC (from): Inc. Petterson, Mills, Powell, Tiler, Redfearn, Youds, Rufus, Kinsella, Newton, Hunt, Mendonca, Mortimer, Brown, S Jones, K Jones, Lts-bie, Bright, Parier, Barness, Royce.

EMERTON (from): Myrie, Ball, Watson, Unsworth, Short, Materazzi, Collins, Hutchison, Grant, Dunne, Bakayoko, Cadamarteri, Milligan, Jeffers, Cleland, Simonsen, Oster.

Chelsea v

Sheff Wed

HAVING BEATEN Manchester United last week, the Sheffield

Wednesday manager, Danny Wilson, looks certain to name an

unchanged starting line-up for the trip to play Chelsea today.

Fixture lists can be cruel, though, and no matter how much con-

fidence the Owls took from a home win against a side that, per-

haps, had one eye on the midweek Champions' League game

at Barcelona, Stamford Bridge and an in-form Chelsea will be

out the suspended Paolo Di Carrio and long-term injured Ian Nolan

probably out for most of the season with a knee injury, player-

coach Gianluca Vialli is still spoilt for choice. He could even keep

faith with the side that won 4-2 at Leicester last weekend, al-

though Dan Petrescu may return for Bjarne Goldback, and

CHELSEA (from): De Goey, Hitchcock, Kharine, Le Saux, Ferrer, Babayaro, Duberry. Desailly, Lambourde, Di Marrec, Poyet, Goldback, Petrescu, Morris, Nicholis, Vialii, Fio, Zola.

Vialli, rio, 2018.

SHEFFELD WEDNIESDAY (from): Smicek, Atherton, Jonk, Walker, Carbone, Booth, Hyde, Cobian, Humphreys, Briscoe, Stefanovic, Oakes, Hinchcillife, Sediosid, Emerson, Magilton, Rudi, Alexandersson, Sonner, Pressman, Clarke, Suspensions: Cheksea: Wise, Sheffield Wednesday: Di Canlo.

Coventry v

Leicester

Last season: 0-2

COVENTRY CITY are expected to be unchanged for today's home

Premiership match against Leicester City, despite last week's 2-0 loss at the Riverside Stadium against Middlesbrough, al-

though there is a question-mark hanging over striker Noel Whe-

lan, who has a slight injury.

Manager Gordon Strachan will make a decision on his top scor-

er shortly before kick-off, with Darren Jackson, on loan from Celtic,

Leicester manager Martin O'Neill also has cause for con-

However, Matt Elliot can rest easy knowing he should not

on standby to replace Whelan as Darren Huckerby's partner.

cern about the fitness of his top marksman, with Tony Cottee rated as doubtful with a hamstring strain. Swedish international

be summoned to the front-line again as a makeshift striker, the

surprise role handed to him against Chelsea, with Emile Hes-

AND MEMBERS AND LINES THE TOTAL THE STREET STREET, AND AND STREET, AND AND STREET, AND AND STREET, MANUAL MARKET, COMMENTAL CITY (From): Hedman, Nisson, Shaw, Williams, Edworthy, Teller, McAlfester, Clement, Froggatt, Huckerby, Whelan, Bosteng, Jackson, Soltwelt, Breen, Shilton, Wallemme, Ogrizovic.

LEICESTER CITY (from): Keiler, Arphevad, Walsh, Guppy, Sinclair, Taggart, Ellott, Ullachome, Impey, Savage, Izzet, Lennon, Zagoralds, Heskey, Wilson, McMahon, Cukes, Parker, Campbell, Fenton.

Suspensiones: Covenity of Telegraph of Manual Covenity of Telegraph o

entry: Eustace. Leicester: None.

Nottm Forest v

Aston Villa

Last season: No fixture

NOTTINGHAM FOREST have fitness concerns over Steve Stone

and Chris Bart-Williams, each nursing knee injuries. Both will

undergo late fitness tests before manager Dave Bassett finalises

his plans. Forest, without a win in 11 League games, will defi-

nitely be without the suspended Alan Rogers. Craig Armstrong

is expected to move from the centre of defence to deputise for

him at left back as Bassett is considering reverting back to a

4-4-2 formation. Andy Johnson made a return to action in a re-

serve game on Tuesday after a five-week lay-off following her-

match ban, has decided to delay knee surgery. Taylor is expected

be fit to line up against his former club. Villa's Australian in-

eight games with a shoulder injury, is likely to be out again -

eight games with a shoulder injury, is likely to be out again — although his comeback should not be too far away.

NOT INVERTABLE FOREST (Not): Bessett, Cheetle, Armstrong, Hjelde, Edwards, Stone, Genmill, Quastie, Bart-Williams, Gray, Freedman, van Hoofdonk, Darcheville, Dowson, Johnson, Shipperley, Crossley.

ASTON WILLA (Non): Cakes, Welson, Ellogu, Southgate, Barry, Wright, Taylor, Hendrick, Merson, Collymore, Dublin, Joachim, Draper, Thompson, Charles, Grayson, Rachel, Sespensions: Forest: Rogers, William None.

Reference: G Willerd.

nia surgery and could be included among the substitutes. Villa will have Ian Taylor back today. The midfielder, who

Pontus Kaamark (Achilles) is definitely still out.

Michael Duberry will also be pushing for a recall.

and Earl Barrett, but some squads are fuller than others.

Wilson has virtually a full squad at his disposal, albeit with-

Even with Dennis Wise suspended and Pierluigi Casiraghi

a very different proposition.

It will be interesting to see Everton's new "style" now they

Danny Cadamarteri continues as Ibrahima Bakayoko's

Weekend guide to the Premiership

Newcastle v Wimbledon

Last season: 1-3

WHILE ALL eyes at St James's Park this BY NICK HARRIS afternoon will be on Newcastle's new signing Duncan Ferguson (left), and all the talk will be of precisely what his signing means for Alan Shearer - dream striking partner or reason to leave? - Wimbledon will be attempting to build on last week's win 1-0 over

Arsenal that took them to eighth in the table. The Wimbledon manager, Joe Kinnear, thinks Ferguson's arrival in the North-east will certainly improve the Magnies' confidence, but he is more concerned by an established Geordie threat than the recently imported Scot. "Newcastle needed a really

"Ferguson is a very good player but I'm more concerned about Alan Shearer most of all. We have to face them both," he added, taking the opportunity to state for the umpteenth time that, although his resources are scant,

his men are full of battling qualities. "This is always the way when we play the bigger clubs. They always have two or three new faces which come up against us that weren't there before. But we've coped in the past. If you look at the Newcastle forward line, there was £8m for Ferguson, £15m for

matches - players win you matches. And any Robbie Earle (right, three) are all in today's game you win puts you in good spirits.

"It's especially nice to beat the Double win- men of their own to call upon. ners and overall it was a smashing day. I think we got the game plan right and the lads were committed, so it was the result we deserved. But if you consider where we are when we're playing against the calibre of

opposition we are, we're doing marvellous." The Dons' winger, Michael Hughes, will miss the game because of the mandatory onematch ban for the five bookings he has picked up this season. Ceri Hughes and John Goodman played a reserve game in midweek, but big lift after their 1-0 defeat by Everton last Alan Shearer, 25m for Gary Speed and 22m will not be in contention for another month. Monday and making a big signing like that for Keith Gillespie. That's £30m for four play-should have done the trick," Kinnear said. ers up front. But it's not money that wins you Marcus Gayle (six), Jason Euell (four) and

squad and ready to show the Dons have big

Shearer is struggling with his hamstring injury but is in Newcastle's squad and could play alongside Ferguson. Teenage defender Aaron Hughes has recovered from a call injury but Andy Griffin is out with a groin problem. Nikos Dabizas and Stuart Pearce are suspended.

ATTE SUSPETOREL.

NEWCASTLE UNITED (from): Gwen, Harper, Barton, Serrant, Charnet, Dabizas, Hughes, Albert, Lee, Speed, Gillespie, Solano, Hamarin, Giass, Shearer, Ferguson, Daiglish, Andersson, Kestshala, Georgadis.

WINDRILEDON (from): Sullivan, Cummigham, Kimble, Blackwell, Tharcher, Hughes, Earle, Exoku, Roberts, Gayle, Ardley, Hoald, Goodman, Leaburn, Ardley, Heald, Goodman, Leaburn, Ardley, Heald, Goodman, Leaburn, Ardley, Heald, Goodman, Leaburn, Hughes, Answorth, Kennedy, Euel, Castedine, Cott Sampanadona: Neuvosatlar: Dabuzas, Pearce, Wissbledon:



Southampton v Derby



The complex art of title winning MANCHESTER UNITED have never lost a

Chelsea 12
Aston Villa 13
Manchester United 13
Lekester 14

Tottenham

Premier League game in which they have scored the first goal. This impressive record — which stretches across more than six seasons — goes some way to explaining their dominance in recent years, but is only one factor in the years, our is only one factor in the complex art of winning the title. For every season of the 1990s, the eventual champions have always won more games than their thats - until last season. Arsenal's winning margin of one point was thanks to an extra drawn game compared with Manchester United. Both won 23 out of their 38 games, Aston Villa currently lead the Premiership by wirple currently lead the Premiership by virtue of their eight wins in 13 outings.

Manchester United have seven wins each with Arsenal and Cheisea following up on the arises.

with Arsenal and Cheisea ronowing up on six apiece.

Although the starting point for securing the possibility of a win is the scoring of at least a goal per game, it's certainly not the end of the story. Disepectedly, Middlesbrough, Charlton, Totterham and Wimbledon lead the way in having scored most regularly so far. Chelsea, Aston Willia and Manchester United are only just behind with sames to make up. Arsenal behind with games to make up. Arsenal have failed to score on six occasions and yet hold on to third place. Blackburn, in contrast, have failed to score on just five occasions and yet find themselves at the bottom of the rable. Everton, following Monday's first home victory at Goodison, have a remarkable haul of 15 points when they've scored in only five of their games. So scoring a goal is only a starting point

in gaming three points.

More important to withing a game is the reore important to wanning a game is the securing of the figs goal. Of the 138.

Premiership games played so far this season, 48 have ended drawn, 72 goalless). Of the remaining 90 victories. We have gone to the side scoring first. Having scored first the "trick" is then to ensure the lead is kent Acton Wills and Manchester United have done that every time (but then so have Everton and Nottingham Forest both dines they've struck first!). West Ham and Bladdown have both twice taken the lead but in

Charlton

Newcastie :

Derby Leeds West Ham Coventry Southampton Nottingham Forest Sheffield Wednesday Eventor Games Scored Gone on Gone on Gone on played first to win to draw to lose West Ham Arsenal Chariton Coventry Tottesham 4.5 14 7 ... 6 Wimbledon 14 6

Nottingham Forest both times they've struck first!). West Ham and Blackbarn have both twice taken the lead but in the end been defeated.	Newcastle Schittlampton Everton Nottingham Forest	14 2
A hatful of goals Scoring a hatful of goals in a game would seem another way to ensure a victory. Four times this season five goals have been scored and that's been enough to win and 12 times four goals have been scored and that's always also been	enough for three points three goals is more pro- times it has been achieve three games have result Ham and Blackburn have three in a game and still lose by the odd goal in state of the points.	blematic - 26 red this season a ted 3-3. West e both scored I gone on to

Southampton

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Sheffield Wednesday 14
Neurastle 13

Four or five goals in a game has guaranteed three points this season player ben his the oaks in e. The

35.71

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m some !	our and still lose was No		illa and Leicester on 2	2 🖖 🔆 💮 🚟	
	5-4 at Carrow Road by		filia were up 3-0, and	·	
	peop on 9 April 1994. Chri			o transfer of	t
Sutton 90	ored twice for Norwich as		Lowe scored twice for		
Le Tissier	a hat-trick for the Saints.	The Leicester in the fi			eristics: Brian Sears / N

TOMORROW'S SKY GAME

Liverpool v Blackburn Last season: 0-0

being suspended by Uefa for the 3-1 midto return at the expense of Mark Draper, while the striker Stan country of the striker Stan country of the striker Stan week European defeat with Celta Vigo. Still country of the striker Stan week European defeat with Celta Vigo. Still country of the striker Stan week European defeat with Celta Vigo. Still country of the striker Stan week European defeat with Celta Vigo. Still country of the striker Stan week European defeat with Celta Vigo. Still country of the striker Stan week European defeat with Celta Vigo. Still country of the striker Stan week European defeat with Celta Vigo. Still country of the striker Stan week European defeat with Celta Vigo. Still country of the striker Stan week European defeat with Celta Vigo. Still country of the striker Stan week European defeat with Celta Vigo. Still country of the striker Stan week European defeat with Celta Vigo. Still country of the striker Stan week European defeat with Celta Vigo. Still country of the striker Stan week European defeat with Celta Vigo. Still country of the striker Stan week European defeat with Celta Vigo. Still country of the striker Stan week European defeat with Celta Vigo. Still country of the striker Stan week European defeat with Celta Vigo. Still country of the striker Stan week European defeat with Celta Vigo. Still country of the striker Stan week of the striker Stan we while Steve Harkness - suffering knee dam- Darren Peacock out with a foot injury and ternational goalkeeper Mark Bosnich, who has missed the last age after Stan Collymore's tackle last caretaker manager Tony Parkes could weekend - and Jason McAteer (ham-

string) are both also out. Gérard Houllier must decide what to do with a porous defence which has conced- found out he has a broken toe. Jason ed 15 goals in six matches. Phil Babb, who phoned in ill this morning and we will have played in the 4-2 win against Aston Villa but to see how he goes," said Parkes.

was only a midweek substitute in Spain, is missed last week's defeat at home to Liverpool because of a onelikely to be given another chance.

Blackburn, bottom after losing 2-0 at home to Southampton last week, have also be without Jason Wilcox, who is struggting with illness. "Darren injured his foot against Southampton and we've since



Billy McKinlay is struggling to recover from a groin problem and take the place of suspended captain Tim Sherwood. The Italian Dario Marcolin, on loan, could get his first Premiership start, with Christian Dailly again asked to play

with Christian Dailly again asked to play out of position.

LIMERPOOL (from: James, Heggern, Carragher, Bobb, Saunton, Blomebye, Berger Inte, Redirapp, Thompson, Owen, Fowler, Redie, Kwarme, Priedel, Leonhardsen, Murphy, SLACKEMENN (fromn): Flan, Kenna, Croft, Hencz, Johnson, Dally, Duff, Blake, Gallaciner, Davies, Fettis, Broomes, Marcolin, Wilcox, Dunin, Taylor, Davidson, Perez.

Suspensions: Limerpool: None. Blackburn: Sherwood. Referee: J Winter.



Last season: 0-2



SOUTHAMPTON EXPECT to have Carlton Palmer available today three days after he had said his farewells to team-mates. Palmer's move to First Division Barnsley, which would have brought Welsh international Darren Barnard in the other direction. collapsed this week over personal terms. An ankle injury sustained in the 2-0 win at Blackburn might yet prevent Palmer reappearing, but there are other selection problems for manager Dave Jones. Matthew Le Tissier is suspended and Richard Dryden is out with a torn groin, and the composition of the defence depends on Ken Monkou recovering from a thigh strain.

Jim Smith will decide today whether to recall goalkeeper Russell Hoult. Hoult missed last Sunday's home defeat against West Ham because of a concussion he suffered at Nottingham Forest six days earlier but is back in training and pushing Mart Poom for the goalkeeper's jersey. Derby are still without injured cap-tain Igor Stimac and striker Francesco Baiano while Smith will also make a decision on defender Jacob Laursen, who has been suffering from a heavy cold.

SOUTHARDETON (from): Jones, Hiley, Dodd, Monkou, Benak, Lundeksam, Pipley, Paimer Kachkoul, M Hughes, Oakley, Ostenstad, Beattle, Bridge, Basham, Monk, Moss Dersey COUNTY (probable). Poom, Laursen, Carbonari, Elliott, Phot, Delay, Carbing, Powell, Bothnen, Dongo, Harper, Wanchope, Sturndge, Burton, Hault, Schneot, Eranso Bridge-Wildinson, Christie.



West Ham v Tottenham Last season: 2-1



WEST HAM'S Marc Keller is kept out today with hamstring trouble and will be replaced by Stan Lazaridis at left wing-back. Craig Forrest has resumed training but Les Sealey is likely to be the goalkeeping substitute as West Ham look for a win that could potentially take them to third tonight.

George Graham has named teenagers Luke Young and Alton Thelwell in a squad already lacking Colin Calderwood, through suspension, and Justin Edinburgh and Ramon Vega, both with knee injuries. Graham also has the Republic of Ireland Under 21 international Peter Gain and 20-year-old Mark Gower on standby for midfield duty. Andy Sinton or Clive Wilson look likely to replace Edinburgh at left-back. Moussa Saib is recovering from a long-term back injury, and Graham continues to ignore Italian Nicola Berti who is transfer listed, Steffen Iversen and Chris Armstrong stay in tandem up front.

WEST HAM UNITED (from) Heige, Ferdinand, Pearce, Ruddock, Lomas, Lampard, Sectian, Berlowe, Lazandia, Hartson, Kitson, Sealey, Moncur, Potrs, Margus, Brasker, Abou, Duks TOTTERHAM HOTSPUR (from): Baardsen, Carr, Young, Campbell, Wilson, Sinton, Fru Anderton, Nielsen, Clemence, Gower, Girlola, Armstrong, Mersen, Gain, Dominiquez, Thriwell, Walker,

Suspensions: West Ham: None Spars: Calderwood Reference: D Gallacher



TOMORROW Arsenal y

Middlesbrough Last season: No fixture



NIGEL WINTERBURN is expected to pass a fitness test on calf and ankle injuries to join Arsène Wenger's injury-ravaged squad for tomorrow's game. Tony Adams will be out for at least six weeks with a recurrent back complaint after being forced to opt out in pain of the 1-0 Champions' League defeat by Lens at Wembley on Wednesday at half-time. Patrick Vieira (hamstring) and Emmanuel Petit (torn stomach muscle) are out for three and four weeks respectively. Wenger fears Dennis Bergkamp's call injury could also take three weeks to heal. Petit, Vieira and Bergkamp all missed the Lens match in which Winterburn was also injured but the 35-year-old defender was able to do some training yesterday. Steve Bould continues to deputise for Adams. Fredrik Ljungberg looks set to join Ray

Parlour, Stephen Hughes and Rémi Garde in midfield.

Middlesbrough will give late fitness tests to Paul Gascoigne and Curtis Fleming, Gascoigne has a calf injury and Fleming is struggling to overcome a knee injury. Robbie Mustoe will return after suspension but centre-back Gianluca Festa, who nas

a shoulder injury, will not be able to play.

ARSENAL (tron): Seaman; Divon. Keown, Bould, Winterburn, Parlour, Garde, Hughes, Ljungberg, Overmars, Wreh, Anelka, Upson, Grimandi, Vivas. Grundin, Boa Morte. Mendez, Marsinger.

MIDDLESHROUGH (from): Schwarzer, Fleming, Stockdale, Baker. Cooper, Vickers, Gordon, Maddison, Summerbell, Rownsend, Gascoigne, Mustre, Ricard, Beck. Deane.

Saupansilons: Arismali: None Bore: None



Manchester Utd v Leeds Utd Last season: 3-0



MANCHESTER UNITED will be without the injured Ryan Giggs, Teddy Sheringham and Ronny Johnsen for Leeds' visit to Old Trafford tomorrow. All three are recovering and in training and Alex Ferguson expects them to figure against Tottenham in Wednesday's Worthington Cup quarter-final at White Hart Lane but none will play any part this weekend. Ferguson reported no fresh injuries from Wednesday's epic 3-3 Champi-

United will still be without Jordi Cruyff (hamstring). David O'Leary will also be without three key players as Leeds go in search of their first victory at Old Trafford for 17 years. Captain Lucas Radebe is again missing as he continues to recover from a knee ligament injury which has already kept him out for five games. Fellow centre-back Robert Molenaar and midfielder Lee Bowyer are also out as they serve one-match bans for picking up five bookings. Harry Kewell, with four goals this season, and Jimmy Hasselbaink (seven goals, including four in the last four games) should both start in the new took, ex-

ons' League encounter with Barcelona in the Nou Camp but

Citing Leeds.

AMAINCHESTER UNITED (from): Schmeichel, Van der Gouw, Irwin, Brown, P Neulle, G Neulle, Curris, Stam, Keane, Burt, Scholes, Beckham, Wilson, Elizmopisc, Cole, Vorke, Solskjaer

LEEDS UNITED (from): Martyn, Haaland, Wietherall, Wijnhard, Hasselbaink, Ribeiro, Hopidh, Granville, Lilley, Male, Kewell, Harte, Hitlen, Wicodgate, McPhall, Smith, Robinson, Suspensiones: Man Und: None. Leads: Molenaer, Bowyer

Referens G Poll,

Särtistics: Brian Scars / Nick Harris





SPORT



WALLABY BOWMAN'S BIG IMPACT P22 • FERRER FEELS AT HOME P30

Tennis: Rusedski wins the battle of Britons in Hanover but their encounter lacks fire as the No 1 loses the plot

Henman saving his best for Moya

TIM HENMAN is due to play in the BY JOHN ROBERTS semi-finals of the ATP Tour Championship against Carlos Moya, from Majorca, where the British No 1's game seemed to be on vacation yesterday. It is to be hoped that Herman's form returns refreshed today otherwise a great British adventure and a quest for the £1m first prize may end in grave disappointment.

That was certainly the case here yesterday, when Henman was apparently unable to motivate himself for his concluding round-robin match against Greg Rusedski, the British No 2, who won 6-1, 6-4.

"I'm the first to admit I played badly," Henman said, "and I'm disappointed. I think a lot of people wanted to see us having a tight and hard-fought match. It wasn't quite the case today. My goal was achieved for 5-1. At that stage Rusedski had conthe round-robin. In some respects, there wasn't so much in the game. But still my pride of performance should take care of that. Some of the shots ing said that, Greg did play very well.

'I'm not going to dwell on that one my next match. I still go into tomorrow's match with Moya with a lot of match, he suddenly found that his usu-

Rusedski was delighted with his e "I think I played at the — to win the first two i ing on all cylinders. I was mixing up ski saved the first two with potent my game really well. I don't think Tim serving but fluked the third off the

in Hanover

ally took advantage of that with the four breaks of serve. I was really motivated to win." Rusedski prevailed after 64 min-

utes, and but for a late surge by Henman, the match would have been shorter and more embarrassing. A capacity crowd of 14,000 in the Expo 2000 Tennis Dome were whistling and jeering when Henman suddenly picked up his game. This started with a running backhand service return down the line on the first point of the sixth game of the second set. As the crowd roared their approval, Henman ironically raised both arms in salute. It was the only point Henman won in the game as Rusedski cruised to lead ceded only four points on his serve in the set, and only eight in the match. The cheers for Henman continued

when he held to love in the next game. I missed were hard to explain. Hav- He responded by turning a dreadfully one-sided affair into the semblance of a contest between two players with too long," he went on. "It's more im- pretensions of spending the best portant now to start thinking about part of their careers in the top 10. When Rusedski first served for the

ally reliable deliveries had gone off track - enough, that is, for Henman level I played when I played Sampras was a gift, a double fault which offered in Paris," he said. "Everything was fir- Henman three break-points. Rusedserved as well as he could have. I re- frame of his racket.



Greg Rusedski plays a backhand during a straight-sets win over his British rival Tim Henman in the ATP Tour Championship in Hanover yesterday

Henman created a fourth break point, only to lob marginally over the baseline. The crowd booed, then the linesman cried "out", partly through wishful thinking. Rusedski then reached his first match-point when Henman missed with a backhand. The crowd rejoiced when Henman hit

the line to prolong matters. Henman had a fifth break-point, on ski to hit a forehand over the baseline. event's first substitute, only joined the prize money and ranking points.

Henman held to love in the next game. Rusedski had had warning enough, however, and managed to serve out to love on his second match-point.

Apart from anything else, pride was at stake, and yet Henman was unable to to make any impression - except bad ones - in the opening set. He served so boor faults contributed to his falling 4-1 behind after only 14 minutes. Ruseds-

action on Thursday, when he beat Albert Costa, the second substitute, in straight sets. He had everything to play for yesterday but must have been as surprised as everyone at the ease

with which he was able to dominate. The opening set zipped by in 25 minutes, so fast that most spectators show their appreciation. By the end

Moya, the Spanish world No 5. qualified for the semi-finals by defeating the Russian, Yevgeny Kafelnikov, in his concluding round-robin match in the Red Group, 7-5, 7-5.

Moya finished as runner-up in the group to Pete Sampras, who was confirmed as the world No 1 for a ing a Union Jack flag did, however, Marcelo Rios retired hurt on Thursday. Henman has won three of the hour, and this time his service re-ki, who had been around since of the match, Rusedski's progress had his four matches against Moya, al-nomenal achievement." turn was good enough to force Rused- Sunday waiting for a game as the reaped greater reward in terms of though they are level, 1-1, on indoor carpet courts.

Sampras was close to tears on Thursday when Mark Miles, the ATP Tour's chief executive, gave a eulogy over a No 6-shaped cake. The emotional mood was lightened when a bottle of champagne was poured over Sampras's head, Formula Oncstyle. Henman was asked to put spective. "It's tough for anyone else to comprehend," he said. "It's a phe-

Greenwood withdrawal upsets plans

CLIVE WOODWARD has been back to the drawing board so many times since he succeeded Jack Rowell as England makes the architectural wizards behind the Millennium Dome look like a bunch of cheanskate part-timers. Woodward was England captain, wins his 31st forced into yet another redesign yesterday when Will Greenwood, his single most potent attacking force, withdrew with a clubmate. Mike Catt, a first of last year. It was also the worst

No.3780 Saturday 28 November

RUGBY UNION

By CHRIS HEWETT

coach 14 months ago that he groin strain from this afternoon's Cook Cup match with Australia at Twickenham.

Phil de Glanville, the former cap in Greenwood's stead. The coach was tempted by the gamble of giving De Glanville's

enlightened rugby thinkers consider it to be his natural station, desoite his own preference for the outside-half position. However, a more conservative approach carried the day - a sign, perhaps, that Woodward was beginning to feel the heat.

De Glanville's last game as national captain was against the Wallabies in Sydney in July

THE SATURDAY CROSSWORD

By Phi

Test start in the centre; most game anyone could remember seeing him play.

"Phil comes into this game with all sorts of motivation behind him," said Woodward, "Not least of which is the fact that he is no longer an automatic choice at club level. I can't say I'm overjoyed that he has not played much rugby recently, but at

least he comes in fresh." Woodward's Wallaby counexactly full of joy either. Having been told that Twickenham was out of bounds for training, he arrived at the stadium yesterday to discover that England had enjoyed a full run-out on the hallowed turf. "It's not a big issue, but having been denied access I was surprised to find it open to the English," he said.

"I'm not sure that was in the

Macqueen will be even less chuffed if his side fails to improve on the 15-15 draw they secured in the corresponding fixture last year, the Wallabies have come on a distance since then - three straight wins over the All Blacks being the high point of their dramatic rise. Matt Burke, Ben Tune and Tim Horan may be at home but any side containing Jason Little,

spirit of the game."

Larkham and George Gregan can cope with the setback. Yet England possess the means of giving Woodward his first, much-needed victory over southern hemisphere opposition. Lawrence Dallaglio's return as captain and back-row buccaneer should guarantee a fast and furious forward effort.

Daniel Herbert, Joe Roff, Steve

Together with Neil Back and Richard Hill, Dallaglio forms a breakaway unit that should expose the lack of footballing expertise among the Wallaby loose forwards. Toutai Kefu and Matt Cockbain are nobody's turkeys but, compared with their opposite numbers, they are biff merchants rather

"Lawrence is absolutely fundamental to the way we want to play the game," agreed Woodward, who must have felt like emigrating after watching his Dallaglio-less team stumble through last week's tortuous World Cup qualifier against Italy. "I'd never before coached a side who went out and played like we did in Huddersfield, I don't intend to do so ever again."

It is not too fanciful to suggest that Dallaglio now means as much to England as does John Eales, without doubt the finest second row on the planet to Australia. This time last year, Eales' results were nothing to write home about, since when he has barely ceased putting pen to paper Dallaglio has made no predictions but no doubt he, too, is sharpening his pencil

ENGLAND V AUSTRALIA

Bath 15 C Lathan Queenstand P de Glanville .Bath 13 D Herbert .NSW Leicester 11 J Roff P Grayson M Dawson Northampton 10 S Larkham .ACT .ACT NSW D Garforth Leicester .NSW ...Leicester Northampton. .Queensland .Leicester .Queensland Rapiacaments; 16 N Seal (North-ampton), 17 M Catt (Bath), 18 D Lager (Harlequins), 19 M Corry (Lickester), 20 D Greencock (Sora-cers), 21 G Rossutree (Lekester), 22 P Greenlos (Sale)

Ruplacements: 16 C Whitelear (NSW), 17 M 5dmonds (NSW), 18 at Hardy (ACT), 19 W Orbbengase (NSW), 26 O Finegase (ACT), 21 C Blades (NSW), 22 M Poley (Queens-

Referee: P Honiss (NZ) Kilck-off: 2.30pm (Sky Sports 2, 1.00pm)

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Friday's solution

Last Saturday's solution 28 Having drink with a

ACROSS

Where heartless Welsh cop excitedly grabs fore-most of thieves? (8) Cut round advert for this

traipsed uphill? Not Phi! 10 Vegetable, sort associated with mut (6.4) a form of vandalising

13 Medicinal stuff the Queen's swallowed in total (5) 14 Disparaging University College for going into commerce (9)

16 Politician says a lot, nev-19 Act of deception in which student's naked? (5)

21 & 23 Entire ten drums playing - but not this! (4.10) 25 Inventor keeps pacing

26 One's always showing a surprised expression Good selection of com-

petitors from the privi-leged class (6)

Chap carrying gold to de-lay transportation of car-go (7) It's an event for staff att-

tached to wine-cellar (4-Symbolic number's about right (5)

DOWN

Maritime (?) novel was sad, with English ar-gosies being wrecked (4.8.3) First of panes fitted into

lattice window, as earnestly requested (7) Endless talk from teacher (5) Soldier to take too long

loading round (7) 15 Charge allowing entry of some old students ex-cluding a writer in rags?

17 Expression of sympathy about a time in treat-ment-room (7)

with fine lines (7) 20 Entertainment wrecked by ruffian (7)

24 A selection of goods that may be new, in fashion

The first five correct solutions to this weak's puzzle opened next Thursday receive hardbacked copies of the Oxford Dictionary of Quotations. Answers and winners' names will be published next Saturday, Send solutions to Saturday Crossword, P.O. Box 4018, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5BL. Please use the box number and postcode and give your own postcode. Last week's winners: L De Barra, Little Chalfont, J Williams, Skrewsbury; D Morgan, Hawkshurst, P Brown, Canterbury, C Hyde, Windson.

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MY TOUGH WEEK: JANE COUCH'S DIARY

THE INDEPENDENT

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FEATURES, PAGE 9

WHY WE LOVE **THE SOFA** SITCOM

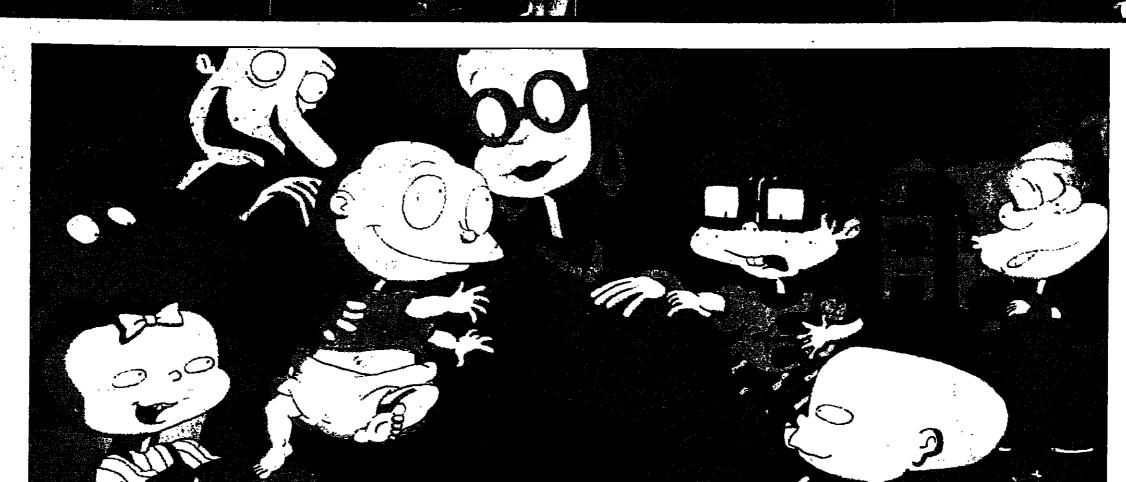
ARTS, PAGE 12

THE BEST **BOOKS OF** THE YEAR

BOOKS, PAGE 14

THE MENACE **OF THE** PARAKEET

COUNTRY, PAGE 19



I've seen the future. Anditburps

Rugrats are the cartoon babies who grew and grew. Now they're poised to take over the world. You have been warned

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Thanksgiving weekend and she's just been to see The Rugrats Movie, the film of the television cartoon series her father and sister.

"I thought it was going to be set in ancient Egypt," she complains. "That's Prince of Egypt, dummy," her sister Martha retorts. "That one hasn't even come out yet."

A couple of queues away outside the multiplex, Jason and his dad Mike said they had been planning to go and see Rugrais themselves until they realised that Babe: Pig in the City (the much-anticipated follow-up to the runaway farmyard smash of a couple of years ago) was opening on time, despite much-trumpeted reports of delays and last-minute editing changes

Not that those two were the only choices on offer. In the squishy department there is A Bug's Life. Disney's pixel-animated follow-up to Toy Story, not to mention Dream-Works' slightly earlier release on much the same subject. Antz. For parents wishing to instill a bit of film culture into their offspring, The Wizard of Oz has obligingly just returned to the big screen in a holiday season re-release. Prince of Egypt, an ani-mated version of the Moses story, will hit cinemas early next month. And Christmas is slated to bring yet more goodies for younger audiences.

It's a confusing, crowded world out there, with the Hollywood studios laying out a tantalising array of wares for children and competing furiously for their custom. Or rather competing for their and their parents' custom. It's no longer enough to have linear plotlines, or straightforward cuteness, or an extended Tom and Jerry-style chase sustaining 90-odd minutes of entertainment. No, to draw in the all-important parents, children's films these days need complex characters, in-jokes, knowing references to movies, books and television programmes and, preferably, a whiff

melia is disappointed. It is slipped in innocently enough. All of which den delights of the show are something that might explain why The Rugrats Movie has snuck up from behind on its big-gun rivals and become the early smash hit of the season. The film barely got reviewed, and when it did, critics provided little more than a polite plot summary. Variety, the industry bible, forecast a discreet theatrical run, with the real market to follow in video. But, to everyone's surprise, audiences began snaking around the block, and the film cashed in an extraordinary \$27.3m on its

opening weekend. Not bad for a cartoon about a bunch of babies. What the film critics did not realise, but what every American parent knows all too well, is that Rugrats has become quietly ubiquitous over the past couple of years. Not only is it the number one cartoon show on US television, but it has branched out into merchandising in a big way. Phil and Lil, the one-year-old DeVille twins, turn up on toddler-sized juice boxes in supermarkets. Advertising supplements promoted

BY ANDREW GUMBEL

by the big children's stores feature Rugrats quizzes and Rugrats wristwatches.

There may not be an enormous amount of psychological complexity to the likes of Tommy Pickles, his neurotic friend Chucky and the spiteful four-year-old villain of the piece, Angelica. But it is enough to keep the kids watching from frenetic vignette to frenetic vignette, and to pique adult interest too, at least for a few minutes at a time. Rugrats is a Charlie Brown for the video age, a portrait of engagingly dysfunctional youth (in this case extreme youth) that has been edited like an MTV video.

Indeed, Rugrats has been described as ideal viewing for short attention spans. The characters, the humour and the knowing references are all there, but such complexities probably elude most first-time viewers. Adults have a tendency to get bored and wander off after a few minutes, of sexual innuendo as long as this can be while the children remain glued. The hid-

parents tend to absorb, almost by osmosis rather than through any real concen-

tration, over an extended period of time. That, in turn, explains why it took a good four or five years for the show to take off on US television, and why it has yet to make much impact in Britain, despite kicking around for a good while. Created by the former husband-and-wife animation team of Arlene Klasky and Gabor Csupo, who also helped conceive The Simpsons, Rugrats was actually pulled off the air after its first couple of seasons. It was only when the show was syndicated and subjected to end-

less reruns that it really hit its stride. The Rugrats are not cute, or loveable, or schmaltzy in any way. Rather, they derive their charm by portraying infants in all their infuriating diversity. Tommy, Chucky, Phil and Lil and the others have the sort of heads that look as though somebody dropped them. They have either next to no hair or, in Chucky's case, an over-abundance of shocking red. They scratch their bottoms, wiggle their nappies, throw up, fart and wall just like toddlers anywhere. They pull each other's hair, throw food, fight over toys and lose no opportunity to whack

each other around the head. The premise of the show, though, is that they also talk (much like adults, although seeing the world from a child's point of view) as soon as their parents are out of earshot. Not only that, but they prove themselves to be no less immature in their own way as their disappointing parents. Their evident savvy adds extra poignancy to their relationship with the troublesome Angelica, who is forever creating trouble for them, for ber workaholic parents and for herself. Her pet phrase, and indeed the signature phrase of the whole show, is a derisive "You

To the extent that the show has generated any controversy, it has focused on Angelica. The creators say they felt they needed a bully figure, since dealing with bullies is what childhood is all about. Continued on page 2

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Objustes 10-11 Country 18 This week's TV



CALIFORNIA ZINFANDEL

Perfect without lamb cutlets and red onion salsa.



SUTTER HOME CALIFORNIA WINES. They don't need food to make sense.

REAL LIFE



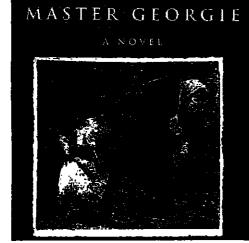
The fertility drug that can give you cancer **PLUS** Can your marriage survive adultery?

REVIEW



Barry McGuigan the pop star **PLUS** Food & Drink special: the easy way to sort out Unristmas

CULTURE



The best books of the year: John Mortimer, Richard E Grant, Marina Warner and others select their favourite reads

All this and more for



Hong Kong in the Rain No 6: A couple brave the elements on top of Victoria Peak

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post: Letters to the Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5DL; please give a daytime telephone number. Fax: 0171 293 2056. E-mail: letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity

Nuclear sanity

Sir: The new German government's desire for Nato to adopt a no nuclear first use (NFU) policy ("German nuclear proposal gets short shrift from US", 25 November) appears to be based more on resurrecting yesterday's slogans than a rational analysis of today's strategic environment.

True, the possible need to resort to nuclear weapons to prevent a Soviet/Russian conventional victory in Europe no longer makes sense, if it ever did. And it is precisely because Nato now enjoys massive superiority in non-nuclear forces that Russia has reversed its previous NFU policy.

So, first question, what do we gain from extending an assurance to a country that will not reciprocate?

And why should Nato entirely rule out the threat of nuclear retaliation if a nonnuclear aggressor is considering subjecting us to germ warfare, especially if by so doing we increase the likelihood of him using biological weapons? Does anyone really believe that if a dictator armed with anthrax threatened London a nuclear NFU policy would mean anything or contribute to our security?

The nuclear weapon states have already pledged themselves never to use their nuclear weapons against nonnuclear states, so long as these states are in compliance with the nonproliferation treaty and are not attacking us in collaboration with a nucleararmed foe. That still stands, but would hardly still apply if such states had just used chemical and biological

weapons.

It is difficult, therefore, to see what a NFU policy would achieve in practical terms, other than to give unwanted contemplating the use of disease and poison to achieve their military ambitions. Dr STEPHEN PULLINGER Department of Peace Studies University of Bradford

Sick old man

Sir: Some people say that Pinochet should be released on compassionate grounds alone.

Everybody knows he is guilty of crimes against humanity. So these people have to find other ways to get him out of trouble. Lady Thatcher said that we should release him because he is a "frail, sick and old" man.

enough to appoint himself senator for life. And he thought himself fit enough to come to England for a meeting with British Aerospace and a visit to Madame Tussauds. He even thought himself fit enough for a cup of tea with Thatcher.

Some people say that extradition threatens Chilean democracy. A democracy where an 82-year-old "sick and frail" man, guilty of crimes against humanity appoints himself senator for life and nobody has the power to do anything against that.

There is no real democracy in Chile as long as Pinochet is free.He should be jailed for life on compassionate grounds aione.

MARTIN van ELMPT London SE8

Sir. At a time when the international community is talking of setting up an international war crimes tribunal to try Saddam Hussein, it would be the height of hypocrisy for Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, not to allow Augusto Pinochet to be tried in Spain for his crimes against humanity.

Why should one dictator escape justice just because he hasn't fallen out with the governments who kept him in Dr DAVID SCOTT

The attempt to police a society of two communities

from one community has predictably failed. Fergal Keane says imbalance in RUC

membership is due to IRA

But he thought himself fit

Strange democracy!

Policing Ulster

Sir: Fergal Keane (Comment, 24 November) refers to the withdrawal by Donegal Celtic from their match against RUC

intimidation of prospective members. He does not explain how this occurred in the years prior to 1971 when the IRA was dormant. The fact that all applicants to the RUC were required to swear a unionist oath is a more credible

with an RUC force drawn

Fundamental reform of the Northern Irish police force is an essential element of the peace process. Chris Patten's review offers some hope that this might take place, but that hope is slight. The reform should have happened sixty years ago. It is the right of the

nationalist community to urge their local team to withdraw from a football match if that withdrawal can to bring attention to the denial of fair policing, IRA violence in the past has rightly been condemned, but nationalist community are not to be attacked for peaceful protest against obvious wrong. Peaceful protest is to be encouraged as a guarantor of peace, and should be listened

to, not attacked

FRANK MURPHY

Coulsdon, Surrey

Scotland's news

Sir. The Governors of the BBC are currently considering a revamp of the Six O'Clock News in order to respond to the new political geography of the UK. They say they are "minded" to support a format which would still be produced and edited in London but which would reflect the fact that Scotland will have a new parliament next year and Wales and Northern Ireland

new assemblies.

As presenters of news and current affairs programmes on BBC Scotland we would have to say that such a "solution" would not remove the existing anomalies nor adequately address the new political and broadcasting imperatives. At the moment much of what is transmitted in the national news at 6pm has little relevance in Scotland

because the Scottish Office is responsible for policy areas like health, education, home affairs and the arts. This will be exacerbated by the arrival of a Scottish Parliament.

We also have a constant problem of duplication. Because the Six O'Clock News has Scotland correspondents covering the main Scottish story of the day, Scottish viewers see that item on the London-based news and frequently all over again on Reporting Scotland, which follows immediately. A Scottish Six, produced and edited in Scotland, would eradicate that problem.

Equally it is important that political stories after devolution are covered with a Scottish perspective.

A Scottish Six would not be a parochial poor relation. It would give viewers unrestricted access to international and national news from the BBC's unrivalled network of correspondents. But the running order and the style would reflect the priorities of its audience. The radio precedent is well established. Good Morning Scotland is broadcast at the same time as Today, using material from the latter where appropriate. In setting up such a

programme the BBC would

not be running ahead of the

political process as some Governors apparently fear, but merely complementing the fact of devolved government **RUTH WISHART** IAIN MACWHIRTER JOHN MILNE KENNY MCINTYRE COLIN BELL KEITH AITKEN **DEREKBATEMAN** ISOBEL FRASER **BBC Scotland**

Verbal assault

Glasgow

Sir: John Williams (letter, 25 November) only touches the tip of the iceberg when he writes of the "51st state" syndrome. Only this week my partner and I were intrigued but confused by a number of radio programmes on a variety of channels, all British. cancel out a unit of urban

The first discussed the relative merits of east and west coast holiday destinations. Apparently Bridlington and Blackpool have been replaced by large cities called Miami and San Francisco. This was followed by Britain's favourite DJ (sic) Chris Evans telling us that a wonderful book he had just read covered many topics

radio show. Finally, on our local radio station, we were disappointed but not surprised to hear of a "football" -shaped hot-air balloon designed to fiv at high altitude. Eventually we deduced that it was nothing of the sort, it was rugby ball-

"from A to Zee" and talking of

the "lootenants" who ran his

As someone who works in magazines I am all in favour of the development of the English language in order to make it a comprehensible, simple and understandable tool. I do not believe, however, that this involves wholesale acceptance of another nation's fashionable terminology when it means that British media are rendered virtually meaningless to British

listeners. MICHAEL O'HARE London HA6

For the birds

Sir: It would be unwise to follow the example of St Francis in considering all wild bird populations as equal and equally good in compiling Mr Prescott's newly unveiled quality-of-life index (News, 24 November).

For the average urban dweller the depredation wrought by growing populations of pigeons and herring gulls indicates serious loss of environmental quality. Compared with that immediate concern, the knowledge that there are more skylarks in the countryside is likely to

amount to scant consolation. It should be a wondrous challenge for government statisticians to calculate how many countryside skylark benefits units it will take to

pigeon costs before concluding that there has been a net improvement in the wild bird sector of the new happiness index. Meanwhile. a concerted effort by local councils to poison pigeons in the parks could send the index soaring.

Wild bird indicator watching should be a real cool new source of pleasure. CAROLINE DOGGART London SW3

IN BRIEF

Sir: The recent troubles with the Jubilee Line extension have underlined the folly of siting the Millennium Dome in a remote corner of the country, when a ready-made site with excellent transport links was already available at the nation's most central location at the National Exhibition Centre. Is it too much to hope that our rulers will consider the interests of the majority when planning the next national project? SAM BOOTE Nottinaham

Sir: In a letter to the editor (24 November), 19 bishops write 89 lines and not once mention the power of prayer. HOLLY MURPHY Taunton, Somerset

Sir: William Hague appears to have finally found an identity: protector of hereditary peers and brutal dictators. Perhaps he should stick with anonymity. TIM CROSSLAND Romsey, Hampshire

Sir: It is a great pity that the essentially undemocratic nature of a closed list system for electing MEPs should be obscured by the reform of the even more undemocratic House of Lords.

In a closed list system we could not elect a Martin Bell MEP. Why should even the faint chance of electing independent members be blotted out? MICHAEL COOPER Hedgerley. Buckinghamshire

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But debate has simmered over the years, both within the creative team and the public at large,

whether Angelica's meanness is scarcely any older than the animated characters. Early on in the series, she ran away from home, attempted to pin blame for outrageous acts on her cousin Tommy and his friends, and sued her parents for forcing her to eat broccoli.

These might seem like reasonable plotlines for a children's cartoon, but in the US the offspring of the baby boomer generation has been subject to unprecedented scrutiny and psychobabble when it comes to appropriate behaviour. language and role models. Rugrats has attempted to tread the same

I've seen the future. And it burps

really appropriate for an audience fine line being drawn up in pre- works came under pressure to tone schools and kindergartens. Should children's behaviour be categorised as good or bad? (No. says tually, the number of times a carthe prevailing wisdom.) The Rugrats never do anything domestic into the ground was restricted to a irresponsible, like sliding downstairs on the back of a vacuum cleaner, say. Instead, they have a lot of adventures in forests, office buildings and shops. Angelica's the attempts to keep the airwaves dastardly side never escapes punishment and her character has a

token ounce of sweetness. This kind of kid-glove approach to children's programming dates animation and writing talent, then

down the violence typical of the old Warner Brothers cartoons. Eventoon character could be pounded couple of instances per episode.

With the flourishing of a hipper brand of children's cartoon in the 1990s, starting with The Simpsons, sweet and reasonable have become more subtle but no less influential. The idea of developing shows like Rugrats was to tap into eccentric back to the 1960s, when the net- try to find a way to keep the



excesses and exuberances under Cynthia, and ends up protecting control - making the show thrilling and harmless at the same time.

The new movie is a good case in point. The plot of this 80-minute caper revolves around the birth of Tommy's baby brother, Dyl Pickles. Angelica stirs up Tommy's jealousy at the new arrival and causes him and his friends to vow to take Dyl back to the baby shop for a refund. In a series of complicated twists, the whole gang of toddlers winds up with the baby in the middle of a mountain forest. Angelica comes after them in the belief that they have kidnapped her doll,

them from a wolf. Parents and grandparents argue about who is responsible for the missing chil-

dren and rush along in pursuit. Again, the plot twists are accompanied by a politically correct message. Parents, don't lose track of what your children are up to. Don't fall asleep like Grandpa Lou, only to find the little ones gone when you wake up. Children, don't do anything foolhardy if you get lost. And so on, in right-on fashion. For this reason, Rugrats comes across as a bit bloodless, a bit too safe, a bit boring. The soundtrack and swift edit-

ing keep it noisy and distracting, but what it needs is a dark, slightly perverse side that is unarraid to take child audiences down the same sort of perilous avenues .

explored in the Grimm fairy tales In America it has caught on because it captures a certain spirit of the age in a country where seemingly everyone is having chil dren and then worrying about the world they are being brought up in. No doubt publicity, product place ment and savvy marketing might provoke a Rugrat infestation in Britain to coincide with the movie's Britain to coincide with the movie release. It remains to be seen, though, whether it has the power to speak to a generation of parents and children, or whether it will just come across as another dumb American cartoon show.

WEEKFND REVIEW,

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Politics and the law must always march side by side

JUSTICE DOESN'T flow naturally from the law. Ask the former PoWs of Japan that. The law, for them, was defined on the narrowest of interpretations by the Japanese Supreme Court and the British Government washed its hands of the case.

If only, some Ministers might wish, it were as true over the Pinochet case. There, a majority of the Law Lords decided, on the widest interpretation of the law, to allow the general's extradition to Spain to face charges of crimes against humanity. Had the majority swung to the narrower interpretation of the law, the Home Secretary might at this moment been cheerfully mouthing regrets as he explained how he had no other option but to let the tyrant flee.

It's no good declaiming at the illogicality of it all. It is odd that Pinochet should face trial in Spain rather than in his own country where his crimes were committed. It is wrong that the victims of torture in Japanese occupied lands should be refused even a proper apology, whilst the victims of Pinochet should be able to reach out to him through courts which have no direct interest in the case. It is no doubt politically painful to have to explain this if you are a British businessmen doing your best by your company, and your country, in Chile. The terrible bugbear of "precedent" has always been

the basis of criticisms of any decision that takes law into the unknown, just as it has served as an excuse to keep judgement firmly under control.

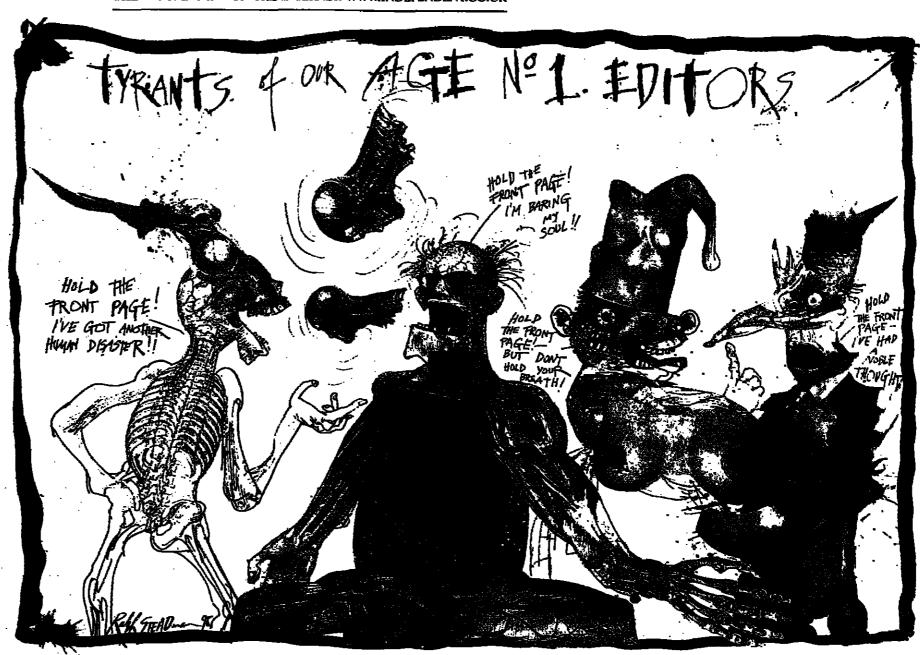
The knock-on effects of offering compensation to all the millions of Asians maltreated by their Japanese conquerors (let alone all the women raped, murdered, or forced into sexual slavery) have been more than sufficient to keep the lines tight in Tokyo. The implications of the Pinochet judgement have been enough to scare some of even the most liberal lawyers to believe that it is opening a floodgate beyond the competence of the British courts, that will have every court in the West tied up in cases for generations to come.

But that is the way that the big decisions have always flowed. The Nuremberg trials were of doubtful legality, a stratagem thought up by the victors of the Second World War to enable peace to be followed by reconciliation in the reconquered lands.

Lord Mansfield set the whole course of the abolition f of slavery rolling by a decision to free an individual slave who had run away in Britain, that set few absolute principles, said nothing on the issue of ownership, and took another half-century before its logical conclusion of the abolition of the state of slavery in the British possessions in 1834.

The reality is that politics and the law have always marched together, along with the cry for justice. It is when the law seems too much at variance with justice that the political strains begin to show, just as it is when political acts seem too much at variance with the law that the judges decide to act, just as they did in the course of the last government.

Which is why Britain must not allow the case for the Japanese Prisoners of War to rest solely with the law, but to pursue it by every political means possible. And it is why Jack Straw has every reason now to retreat to the confines of the law in ensuring that General Pinochet is sent to face his accusers.



The conundrum of **British retailing**

WHAT ARE you going to do today? Chances are you will spend at least some time in a supermarket or shopping mall and that, pleasurable though you may find these modern retail experiences, you will have lost a little of your self-confidence to go and really spend your money because of niggling worries about the future. So it is unsurprising that British retailers have been feeling a little sorry for themselves lately. Travails at stores such as MFI, DFS and Carpetright have been loudly echoed at Marks & Spencer and Sainsbury's. True, they all have their own, sometimes unconvincing, excuses - of poor weather, the death of Diana, "succession" problems in the boardroom, "ambitious" expansion plans or whatever - for the bloodbath on the high street". But there are some grounds for thinking that our shopkeepers themselves could be doing a little more to staunch the haemorrhage of consumer enthusiasm for their goods.

The claim that the British are a nation of shopkeepers is rather threadbare nowadays, and one must look across the Atlantic to find the nation that revels in consumerism.

This weekend millions of Americans will make a swift recovery from their Thanksgiving festivities and start their Christmas shopping. On average, each American will spend over \$1,000 on Christmas gifts. This is not just a question of Americans being more generous and richer than we are, nor just a reflection of their astonishing confidence in their economy and the ease with which they have brushed aside the squalls of the late summer.

There is an additional factor contributing to this boom. Unlike in this country, American retailers go out of their way to make sure that customers spend as much of their money as possible. For one thing, they operate on much lower margins than our shops do, and price-fixing is less prevalent. For another, it's not just a few "have a nice days that make the American retail experience special; shoppers are lent buggies for their babies, they are given valets to park their cars. Shopping, and spending, is fun, in a way that we have not quite managed, for all our pretensions to the American way of consumption.

British chain stores and mall operators would do well to examine the techniques of the Americans. But there is a much bigger revolution that would bring a once-andfor-all - and substantial - boost to trade in British retailing. It's called competition.

The conundrum of British retailing, in everything from

cars to compact discs to groceries, is that we are both one of the most open markets in the world and yet also one of the most restricted, in the sense that price competition seems not to exist. Prices are startlingly uniform across shops. A jar of tomato ketchup will cost exactly the same in Sainsbury's as in Asda or Tesco. A camcorder or a kettle will be the same price in Dixons as it is in Harrods. A Volkswagen or a Volvo will also set you back much the same whichever dealer you visit - and far more than they would most continental Europeans.

What can be done? It is unrealistic to expect our shopkeepers to act. Things are too cosy for them. We could wait for the Government. The Office of Fair Trading's investigation into the supermarkets may yet breach the wall of (apparent) price-fixing and monopolistic practices. Or we could try and use our consumer power, although, when markets seem to be in such strangleholds, it is hard to be optimistic about this. We should insist that no, we're not going to pay 25 per cent more than the Germans for our food or the Belgians for our fridges. Perhaps, then, if retailers find their trade deserting them or the clamour so loud that they refuse to capitulate to manufacturers' pricing demands, we might find the prices in our shops falling to the levels of elsewhere in Europe and America. In the meantime, have a nice day.

Shadows on Spring Street on a rainy Thanksgiving Day

IT wet and windy in New York. The has been good to him. A graduate of rain is of the kind that makes taxis disappear and brings the African Algonquin Hotel. The rain sweeping in from Long Island drenched the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade as it passed slowly down Manhattan. All those floats and clowns and football stars soaked by the autumn storm while the television announcers strained to sound cheerful.

I didn't go to the parade, but I saw the highlights on TV and I saw the sodden families in the hotel lobby. Looking at them, I felt tempted to hide indoors for the day, channel-hopping and reading, enjoying the rare pidisure of doing nothing much in a country that had come to a stop. But I had something to do, an appointment with memory down in the small streets near Little Italy.

Whenever I come to New York, I make a point of walking along Spring Street and stopping near the small park, near the intersection with told, in matter-of-fact detail, how he Broadway, where I mumble a prayer to myself before wandering on through Little Italy and Chinatown and back up to midtown, my ritual

complete. I first walked Spring Street in 1980, eight years after Michael had died there in a late-night fire in his apartment. Michael Hassett. Uncle Michael Mike. Our lost and laughing boy. My grandmother's favourite. The boy who would never

be coming home. The last photograph taken before his death shows a dark-haired, handsome young man smiling at the camera. He is 30 years old and a camera. ne is ou years out and a haired woman and I bored her year. There was a job at a theatre in

Columbia University, he has begun to make a bit of a name for himself off umbrella salesmen to the doors of the Broadway. He loves the bohemian world of early Seventies Greenwich Village. A world of actors, play-wrights, musicians and a great many talkers and dreamers.

He had come to the United States in the late Fifties, sailing out of Cobh Harbour like hundreds of thousands of Irish before him. But he was not fleeing poverty or persecution. Michael was the child of a relatively well-to-do middle-class Cork family. He could have stayed at home and found a job. No, Michael left because he was a romantic, a young man whose eyes had, from an early age, been fixed on a world beyond the little streets of Cork city.

When he came to New York, he found a job with General Electric and studied by night. The photographs of those years show a boyish, earnest face. His letters to my grandmother was succeeding at work and college. They told about the people from every corner of the world he was meeting, about his growing interest in the theatre scene, and his ambition

to become a director. And then they began to tell of his relationship with a young woman called Janet and his plans to marry. The marriage went ahead but soon enough ran into trouble. They were children of vastly different worlds and families and, in the end, they divorced.

I do not know the details but I do remember meeting Janet at his funeral in Cork. She was a slight, dark-



FERGAL KEANE When she spoke of Michael

her eyes filled with tears. This great, loving woman would never be the same

senseless with endless questions about America.

My own memories of Michael are few. When I see him in my mind's eye, he is wearing a plaid shirt and blue denims and he is laughing. Always laughing. He came home on a visit once when I was about nine or 10. It was August and we were holidaying on the south-east coast, in the village where my grandfather was born.

Michael took me to the beach at Goat Island. I remember him hurling me into the waves. He meant it as a joke but I was terrified and howled miserably. I will never forget his solicitude and tenderness, running into the water to gather me into his arms and hugging me until my crying subsided. I remember, too, a night in Dublin when he came to visit us at the very end of that holiday. He had told my grandmother that he would be coming home for good the following

Michael sang the Red River Valley in by my side if you love me, do not hasten to bid me adieu".

That night, we dropped him at the train was full of football supporters, returning to Cork after some big game. I felt worried for my uncle. The crowd was noisy and boisterous. I should not have worried. My last image of him is of the smiling face pressed against the window and his hand waving frantically as the train pulled away.

A year later, on a January night, I was sitting in my grandmother's front room when my uncle Barry arrived. To this day I can remember his exact words. "I have some bad news for ye," he said. Bad news.

Michael was dead. There had been a fire in his apartment and he had died trying to escape. I remember muffled cries from another room. The sound of a world collapsing. I knew that the voice was my grandmother's. Later, a doctor came with some injections and pills, and I heard the word "sedate" for the first time.

There was a funeral with the shiny steel coffin in which Michael's Even when you are much older, remains had been flown from America, I watched it all from behind the backs of the adults. Children are kept on the edge of such events. They are ushered quickly in and out of them. But they see more than the grown-ups know.

I could tell that my grandmother, a great anchor of my life, had been Fergul Keane is a BBC special changed utterly by the loss of her son. correspondent

Dublin and he was anxious to take it I was living with her at the time, my up. He had had enough of New York.
There were some drinks and songs.

months before, and so I saw her pain months before, and so I saw her pain every day. She struggled on with his rich, melodic voice: "Come and sit what I can now see was remarkable courage. With young children to look after she pushed her own feelings into the background and made our lives train station and I remember that the as happy and secure as she could. But when she spoke of Michael, her eyes filled with tears. This laughing, loving, great woman would never be the

same again. One night, many years later, I was staying in my grandmother's house after going to a dance in the city. When I arrived home, well after midnight. I found my gran sitting up with Michael's photograph in her hands. I made some tea and sat with her. "Do you think there is a heaven, Ferg?" she asked. "Do you think I'll see him again, that we'll be together again?"

I spoke for a long time. They were reassuring words, words of belief that I was not very sure of myself but which the old woman needed so badly to hear. I don't know that she believed either. She told me that her own gift for hope had vanished on the night Michael died. And then she said something that I would never, could never, forget. "Always remember him. remember him. And if you have children, tell them about him. Because he was special."

And that is why, on a rainy Thanksgiving Day, 1998, I walked down Spring Street and whispered a prayer



Families plan court action on vaccines

EIGHT FAMILIES have lodged BY GLENDA COOPER writs in the High Court this week in what could become a huge legal battle to prove that These children will be depenrubella (MMR) jab has dam- These parents feel outraged." aged hundreds of children

A further 350 families have been granted legal aid to fight for compensation for their children, solicitors said. Many of published a study of 12 children them are likely to be among the with bowel disease and autism 700 people attending a debate in The Lancet which suggestin London today looking into the ed there might be a connection evidence about vaccines.

Richard Barr, the solicitor co-ordinating the action, said that more than 1,000 parents had now come forward claiming that their children had been

damaged by the jab. "I was initially sceptical," to three years I've been involved, I have come to the conclusion that something needs investigating. I think it is no longer good enough to say that these all cases are just a

coincidence." He said that, if successful, compensation figures could "These are very serious cases. syndrome.

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Social Affairs Correspondent

the measles, mumps and dent for the rest of their lives.

The debate over the vaccines intensified earlier this year after researchers at the Royal Free Hospital, in London, with the vaccine.

As a result, in some areas of the country, up to 25 per cent of parents have refused permission for their children to have the triple vaccine.

But a subsequent meeting of 37 scientists, brought together he said. "But over the last two by the Medical Research Council, concluded there was no reason to change current vaccination practice. Two months later. The Lancet reported that researchers from Helsinki University had traced children who received the vaccine over a period of 14 years, between 1982 and 1996, but had found no reach millions of pounds. cases of autism or any similar



Eight families are beginning High Court action over the MMR inoculation of children

be speaking at today's debate, organised by the newsletter What Doctors Don't Tell You, said that "there was a problem with perception, not with the re-

ality. The trouble is parents have been scared."

Dr David Elliman, who will as an immunisation co-ordinator for 10 years, firmly supports skills after having the vaccine. the use of vaccination.

But Jackie Fletcher of Jabs (Justice, Action, Basic Support) disagrees. She is one of the parents to have been granted legal aid for her son, Robert, thus refusing to improve things seven; but she says he has lost for other people's children."

speech and communication

We went to see the Department of Health last year but they have not done anything,' she said. "They are refusing to investigate our children, and

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Lynne McTaggart, author of What Doctors Don't Tell You, said she hoped the debate would be "a fair fight".

"We want to look at whether vaccines are safe and effective," she said. "We want to hear the evidence from both sides of

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Football cities face total ban on drink

TULINDEPENDENT

THE SALE and consumption of By JASON BENNETTO alcohol could be banned from entire towns and city districts for up to 24 hours at a time, to prevent violence at football matches, under Government proposals announced yesterday. Suspected hooligan ring-

leaders could also have their passports confiscated for five days before international games without the police ob-taining a criminal conviction.

There are additional plans to outlaw indecent chanting by supporters during games. The measures are part of

Government plans to crack down on violence and mayhem in and around football stadia. Civil liberty campaigners vesterday criticised some of the proposals and warned they would be open to abuse.

Among the initiatives un-veiled yesterday are plans to set a curfew on the sale and consumption of alcohol on match days where police believe hooliganism is likely. Kate Hoey, the Home Office minister, said yesterday that in extreme cases large areas of cities could be made alcohol-free zones.

She suggested that drinking could also be outlawed in pubs along routeways and areas referees and players. around train stations used by fans. This could include a ban on the sale of alcohol in supermarkets and outdoor drinking. The ban would affect both football followers and mem-

bers of the public alike. The consultation document, Review of Football-Related Legislation, says: "This mea-

Crime Correspondent

sure ... would be for use only on g those exceptional situations where police and intelligence reports indicate the potential for significant levels of trouble."

In another move the Government and police propose to introduce a law that would allow the courts to force suspected troublemakers, who have not been convicted of any crimes, to hand over their passports for five days. The police would only have to show a court that they had "reasonable grounds" to believe that the suspects are "likely" to become involved in violence.

But Liz Parratt, campaigns manager of Liberty, the civil rights group, said: "Any measure based on the logic of we know he's guilty but can't prove it' should ring alarm bells."

Racist chanting by one per son will also become an offence under the proposals - at present it has to be at least two people in "unison". But the plans also suggest outlawing indecent" chanting, which could hit supporters who delight in shouting obscene abuse at

Ministers hope to use a Private Member's Bill in this session of Parliament to implement most of these proposals, however observers believe many of the more controversial plans are likely to face opposition and could be delayed before the European Championships in 2000.

IN BRIEF

Ex-constable jailed over £1m drugs A BRITISH policeman who was arrested on board a yacht

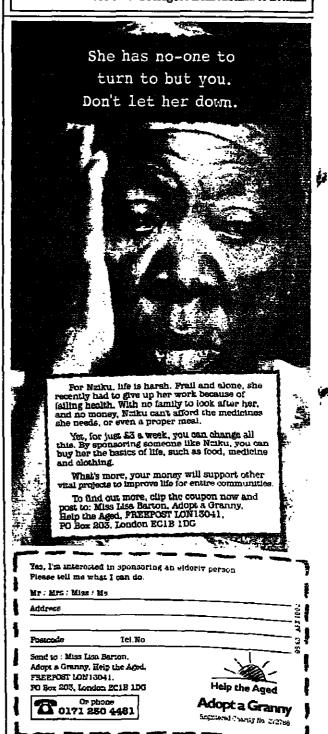
with drugs worth £1m has been jailed for seven years by a French court. John McAnenny, 47, a former constable in the West Midlands force, was sentenced in Boulogne on Wednesday night for attempting to smuggle 200kg of cannabis drugs into Britain last January.

GP facing trial found hanged

A GP accused of indecently patients was found hanged in his surgery days before he was due to go on trial, Essex police said yesterday. The body of Dr Ganesh Malvanker, 55, was found at his surgery in Tilbury, Essex, last Thursday.

Angel of Mostar leaves charity

SALLY BECKER, who was dubbed the Angel of Mostar after she rescued children from Bosnia, is leaving Operation Angel. the charity she founded. She said she had lost faith in herself after a failure to lead refugees from Albania to Britain.





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THE SEX

Wake up, have biscuit, pass water and go

WILL THE radical reshaping of the NHS proposed in the Queen's sources the practice moved to a Speech mean new sofas in my doctor's waiting room? It's beginning to look a bit dingy, though it couldn't be more than five years since it was last done up. That was when the five partners in my general practice stopped being boring, old-fashioned doctors and became exciting new medical fund-holders responsible for their own budgets and entitled to decided for themselves how their limited finances

could be of best use to their patients. By the way, are we still patients or have we - like railway passengers - become customers? Anyway, being civilised sort of chaps, our GPs decided that what we patients needed first of all was somewhere decent to sit while waiting for our appointments. As

sources the practice moved to a leafy mews.

My first appointment in the mews was entirely spent discussing the new decor. Yes, my doctor agreed as he leant back in his stylish, matt black, revolving leather armchair, the stripped pine floors did set off the antique Turkish Kelims beautifully and it had been the family counsellor's idea to utilise the wall space like a gallery.

What I had not appreciated was that GP fund-holders - powerful as their financial independence makes them in matters concerning stripped pine and Kelim - are powerless when it comes to minor details such as hospital waiting lists, hospital procedure and hospital practice. As I get older and potentially iller; I am asked by friends why



SUE ARNOLD

Aunt Muriel never suffered a day's illness until the electronic chair suddenly went berserk

I do not subscribe to a private medical insurance plan. "Because I believe in the NHS,"

favourite aunt Muriel who never suffered a day's illness in her life until the electronically adjustable upholstered chair that her family bought her last Christmas suddenly went berserk. It shot two feet into the air of its own accord and threw Aunt Muriel to the ground where she sustained multiple injuries, including a broken collar bone, when the chair fell on top of her. She was taken to hospital where, to her horror, she found herself in a mixed ward. Useless to protest that she had never seen a man in pyjamas in her life. Single sex wards are uneconomical, advised the staff nurse. Besides, this was the way forward. It was modern. Poor hitherto indomitable Aunt Muriel. The electronically adjustable chair only broke her

flanked on either side by men in pyjamas emitting indescribably disgusting noises by all accounts every night broke her spirit.

Last time I went to see my doctor, we spent a little less time discussing the new exhibition (Ethiopian scenes, shell on raffia) and talked about my problem. Nothing serious, he assured me. I'd have to go to hospital for day surgery. There'd be a general anaesthetic but it was very simple. Naturally there was a waiting list which he could do nothing about.

A week before the appointed day, a nurse rang from the hospital to give me what she called a presment – the usual questions about ailments, allergies and abnormalities. At 8am sharp last Monday morning, a serious young Chinese nursing assistant with huge round rimless glasses and baggy green trousers showed me to my trolley/bed.

Have you had any serious illness since your pre-assessment?" she asked suspiciously. The gynaecologist arrived and started to explain what she was going to do with a piece of bent wire and a blow torch. I said I'd really rather not know but she insisted it was modern practice. At noon I was wheeled up to theatre. At 3pm I was woken up by this serious young Chinese nursing assistant slapping my face quite hard and telling me it was

time to get up.
"But I'm tired. I want to sleep,"

"No, you must wake up. You must drink your tea. You want a biscuit? Then you got to pass water yond the curtains of my cubicle I could see the trousered legs and trainers of the next patient waiting for my trolley. Well, at least they were doing something about the

waiting list. If the radically re-shaped NHS we have been promised allows GPs to insist on elderly maiden aunts being accommodated in female-only wards, or better still in private cubicles, then I am all for it. And if they insist that patients who have had general anaesthetics, to say nothing of bits of wire and blow torch shoved into them, just be allowed to wake up in their own good time without being pinched and slapped and forced to eat biscuits, that would be nice too. Private medical insurance? Over my

THE SATURDAY PROFILE

OSKAR LAFONTAINE, GERMAN FINANCE MINISTER

Europe's most dangerous man?

looks very much like Napoleon, bangs on about "harmonising" all things European from cucumbers to taxes, and in political outlook harks back to the idyllic pre-Thatcher days of socialism. If he did not exist, he would have to be invented by British Euro-sceptics. But Oskar Lafontaine, Finance Minister of Germany and so much else, is flesh and blood. He may well be the embodiment of the Gallic-Teutonic monster the Murdoch press has been warning us about all these years.

Not since the glorious "Up your Delors" s has The Sun had so much fun. Mr Lafontaine, the readers were told this week, poses the greatest threat to Britain's independence since 1945. That would appear to rank the Finance Minister on the Richter scale of evil alongside Adolf Hitler, and streets ahead of previous bogeymen, such as Helmut Kohl. And Mr Lafontaine has only been in his job for a month.

·But his words speak for themseives. "It must remain our goal to overcome the nation state in a united Europe," he said. This is heady stuff, but before someone at Wapping's Agitprop department is fired for missing such a damning confession, it should be stated that Mr Lafontaine uttered those words in 1990 at the time of German re-unification. Then the candidate of the Social Democrat party, he was voicing con-reern at German enlargement. He was, in this respect, an ally of Margaret Thatcher.

In subsequent years, Mr Lafontaine's scepticism was to overlap with the British variety again. He was against European monetary union, and as recently as two years ago, he was arguing for postponement, because he felt the project was threatening jobs. Baroness Thatcher would

have approved. And now, Mr Lafontaine is finding himself, unwittingly, allied to British Eurosceptics once more. In his brief tenure, he has already succeeded in shaking bankers' confidence in monetary union, creating the myth of the "red euro". To top it all, he goes all around Europe telling everyone to bring their taxes and wages in line with Germany's. Is there no stop-

ping this man? The answer is probably "no". Oskar Lafontaine's life is a tapestry of immense certitude, punctuated by moments of selfdoubt brought on by crushing defeats. Born 55 years ago in the mining town of Saar-louis near the French border, Mr Lafontaine lost his father in the war and was educated by Jesuits. His dogmatic outlook on life is said to be the result of this upbringing; a childhood of privations in French-occupied Saariand.

His family were working class. The Jesuits instilled in Oskar a code of ethics that is still with him today. His vision is almost Utopian socialist. Fairness and social justice are, for him, a question of morality, not of economics. Indeed, economics did not interest him at all in his younger years. At as versity Mr Lafontaine studied physics. of the day, Mr Lafontaine was something

stage of his life, joining the Social Demo-crat party at the age of 23, but quickly made up for lost time. A brilliant orator, Mr Lafontaine dazzled andiences with his charm and wit, and eventually caught the eye of Willy Brandt, arguably the Social Democrats' greatest Chancellor.

The combination of his own rising popularity, and help from head office in Bonn, propelled Mr Lafontaine quickly up the ca-

LIFE STORY

Origins: Age: 55. Working class parents, father died on the front. Education: From age nine at the Catholic boarding school of Prum. Studied physics at universities of Saarbrücken and Bonn. Vital statistics: Married three times, currently to economist

Christa Müller, Children: Frederic, aged 16; Carl Maurice, 19 months. Lifestyle: The proud owner of a house in Chianti country, which boasts a wine cellar with an impressive range of Burgundy. Scandals: Forced to pay back DM110,000 he received when he "retired" from job of Saarbrücken mayor. Implicated in the "Red Light District affair", when he was found to have cultivated dublous

contacts with members of the local underworld. Image: Bonaparte of the Saar, Schröder's red shadow, and a garden gnome (right). Prizes: "Golden Microphone" awarded by the German Society of Political Rhetoric. Coveted lobs: President of the European Commission (alleged). Pope (admitted).

reer ladder. In 1974, at the age of 31, he was elected deputy mayor of Saarbrücken, capital of his home region. He was mayor two years later, and a year after that he became leader of the SPD in Saarland.

The chances of a local politician from one of the the least significant Lander of Germany being noticed were minimal. Yet, in 1982, Mr Lafontaine achieved national fame when he made a stand against the deployment of US nuclear weapons on German soil. Then still only mayor, he took part in sit-ins, opposing the policies of the So-cial Democrat Chancellor of the day, Helmut Schmidt

The party was splitting down the mid-dle, and Mr Lafontaine was lining up with the wing led by Brandt, who was then SPD chairman. Even by the sectarian standards

He discovered politics at a relatively late of an extremist. He advocated not only nuclear disarmament, but also the removal of Allied troops from the soil of West Germany, and Germany's withdrawal from Nato's military structure.

Despite his growing notoriety nationwide, on his home turf Mr Lafontaine was unstoppable. In 1985, he scored an electoral triumph in Saarland, sweeping the SPD into power for the first time with an absolute majority. He inherited a rust-belt saddled with massive debts, and proceeded to restructure the bankrupt steel mills and coal mines. Already, at this time, it was becoming clear that Mr Lafontaine would not easily be pigeon-holed into traditional socialist slots. His answer to the problems of a region crying out for modernisation was unconventional for the times. Always on the look-out for a big idea the new Prime Minister of Saarland struck upon "eco-socialism", a creed that eschews growth and, naturally, nuclear power, in avour of environmental concerns

His government borrowed and borrowed, pumping vast resources into cleaning up industry. The mines and the steel mills were kept, but their chimneys were no longer belching. Jobs were preserved, too, owing to heavy public investment. The greatest legacy of Oskar Lafontaine's 13 years in charge of Saarland is a bankrupt foundry which now makes a profit as a theme park. Or the fact that unemployment stands where it stood in 1985, whereas in most of western Germany, it has doubled in that time. Or the regional government's debt burden: nearly twice what it was 13 years ago.

In a candid moment, Mr Lafontaine might now concede that not everything went according to plan in Saarbrücken. He had counted on more help from the private sector, but companies looking for green field sites were often enticed by more favourable tax regimes across the border in Lorraine or Luxembourg.

There are two ways to look at this situation: either the German system or the neighbours were at fault. In Mr Lafontaine's eyes, it is the foreign tax regime that is wrong. Many of Saarland's, and Germany's, economic problems could be solved if other countries could be prevented from practising "beggar-your-neighbour" policies. In other words: harmonise taxes across the EU, and wages too, because they are also unfair.

But we are rushing ahead. For parallel to his administrative career in Saarland, Mr Lafontaine was making his mark on national politics. In 1987, after another SPD defeat, Mr Lafontaine was elected deputy leader under Hans-Jochen Vogel and took charge of a committee which drafted the party's first new national programme in 30 response to the rising threat from the Greens, was eco-socialism.

and fell into a deep depression. He weathered two corruption

Mr Lafontaine could have had the party



Lafontaine: 'It must remain our goal to overcome the nation state in Europe'

1990 elections as the SPD's Chancellor can- in Mannheim, convened as the party stood didate. Characteristically, he was very sure of himself. The polls put him way ahead of Mr Kohl, and Mr Lafontaine had added up the cost of German re-unification, and had discovered that the Chancellor had done his sums wrong. He was also certain that the (West) German people were not very enthusiastic about the project.

Both were miscalculations. Mr Kohl had, it was to emerge later, under estimated the true price tag, but Germans, especially the new voters in the east, had been put off by Mr Lafontaine's unpatriotic and divisive rhetoric. While on the campaign trail, Mr Lafontaine also fell victim to an assassination attempt, when a deranged woman bearing two bouquets of flowers stabbed him in the neck.

He is lucky to be alive now, and even today, the Finance Minister looks extremely nervous in crowds. He made a full sealed with the SPD's worst electoral result since 1957. The old certainties gone, years. The programme's key element, in Mr Lafontaine beat a retreat to Saarland

at home, divorced and married for the third years in the wilderness. chairmanship, but he declined, opting in-stead for a run against Helmut Kohl in the His moment came at an SPD conference ing his party, he was also fine-tuning his

at its lowest in the polls following a year of infighting. Rudolf Scharping, the SPD chairman, asked for "clarity" in his position. Mr Lafontaine stood up and delivered the best speech of his life to thunderous applause. Next morning, he put his name forward and won in an instant ballot.

The question of who would stand against Mr Kohl was deliberately left open. For once, Mr Lafontaine was not so sure of his own chances, but seemed deeply impressed by the vote-pulling power of Gerhard Schröder. No formal agreement was ever struck, but the two men, a bit like Tony Blair and Gordon Brown, reached an informal understanding that if Mr Schröder were to prove himself as the candidate with the best chance, Mr Lafontaine

would not oppose him. Mr Schröder delivered the votes earlier this year in his home turf in Lower Saxrecovery, but his annus horribilis was ony Mr Lafontzine, meanwhile, settled the nerves of the party's ranks. In September, the "nightmare ticket" of Mr Lafontaine at the helm of the party, and Mr Schröder as its candidate for Chancellor, brought the He weathered two corruption scandals Social Democrats back into power after 16

While Mr Lafontaine was busy reshap-

views with the help of his latest wife, Christa Müller, an economist who used to work for the Social Democrats. Now the search for a new dogma is over. In the age of globalisation, Mr Lafontaine thinks the "global casino" of the currency markets poses the greatest threat to social equilibrium. The euro is thus a Good Thing, provided its exchange rate can be harmonised with the dollar and the ven.

Wages and taxes, meanwhile, should be brought in line in the rest of Europe, and industry boosted, Saarland-style, by the injection of vast public funds. The central banks would keep the cost of state borrowing low by reducing interest rates. There is no evidence to suggest that

Chancellor Schröder believes in any of this. But Mr Lafontaine is chairman of the party, and as Willy Brandt has shown with the help of his Saarland protégé, the party can destroy the Chancellor. The Finance Minister has already built up a formidable power base within the government, and no policy area seems beyond his ambitious grasp. At home, his tax policies are heading for spectacular failure, but Mr Lafontaine is convinced he is right and everyone else wrong. He will not budge, at least until the next big idea comes along.

shopping, dating taking clothes to the dry cleaners. Not everyone's life, obviously. There are people who have ships to build, operas to write, races to run, wives and husbands to murder Their views, and actions, you will find represented in other sections of this newspaper, and also on television

has taken it upon himself - in this decade of unprecedented wealth and comfort - to articulate the concerns American television, was clearly of the unremarkable majority whose idea of a major contemporary issue is the difficulty of finding your car in In part and entire percentage of Seinfeld's sit-com dealt with pered few, for ignoring the world period few, for ignoring the world outside that of relatively rich Manistead of parking levels being number of parking l

OUR LIVES are so pointless: working bered or colour-coded, they should be called things like "Your mother's a whore", or "My father's an abusive alcoholic" as an cide-mémoire.

Seinfeld is a kind of poet of the pointless. His sit-com is quite deliberately about nothing. In early episodes in 1990, a stand-up comedian called Jerry Seinfeld was seen trying to persuade TV executives to Jerry Seinfeld, on the other hand, commission a show about nothing a neat little post-modern idea since the series, to the eternal credit of already in production.

Seinfeld has been criticised, predictably, for dealing exclusively with the perceived problems of a pam-

ACCIDENTAL HEROES OF THE **20TH CENTURY**

16: JERRY SEINFELD, COMEDIAN

onising of Austen's characters.

Seinfeld, the final episode of which

was shown in the US on 14 May, 1998,

may be the most successful series in

American television history. In a

multi-channel world catering for a va-

riety of specialist interests, the show

pop at the novels of Jane Austen for interview that lasts all night?"—is not years of planning went into it.

ignoring the Industrial Revolution.

a million miles from the exquisite agignoring the Industrial Revolution. And if the parallel between Seinfeld and Austen seems a little farfetched, compare the two worlds: enclosed, unhealthily concerned with wealth, possessions, and with strict codes of etiquette. Austen, it is true. tended to do less material about cord-

But was it personal vision that created the series, or was Seinfeld merely fortunate in somehow tapping into a popular mood? The former is almost certainly the case. The show might have appeared as casual as feld are the anxieties of Seinfeld. Jerry's jeans and sneakers, but 10

ica settled down for the final Seinfeld,

as if it was the moon landing.

from the stand-up circuit to write for Benson, a popular sit-com, at a able to do the show. salary of \$4,000 (£2,500) a week. He did not last long, and for the next 10 years resisted further blandishments to write "someone else's crummy jokes", waiting for the opportunity to bring a rare commodity to American TV comedy - a little truth.

for instance - "I have the underarm deodorant with the cologne smell Why do you want the smell there? I think once a woman's got her nose in your armpit, the seduction's pretty much over" - but he is not playing to the crowd. The anxieties in Sein-

According to friends, Jerry is not gnificantly different from the rather picky character we see on screen. Little wonder, then, that he no longer felt

It must be exhausting to present vourself weekly on screen in a largely unsympathetic light. The last comedian to do it was Tony Hancock, and it probably contributed to his death. which is one of the many reasons why Seinfeld's chosen comic route is



THE WEEKLY MUSE

BY MARTIN NEWELL



The dark days down to Christmas drag The stubborn lime leaves from the bough, By black canals the soggy hours Hang heavy on the towpaths now.

In ermine whites and Santa reds With sawn-off beehives stuck on heads (You wonder where they go at nights) The Lords may lose their ancient rights, And Silver-Sticks-In-Waiting too -Then how will he and Black Rod do Attending unemployment queues And going to Restart interviews?

Forget that sad old Playboy list Of female icons. One they missed -The girl your Indie poet loves -Jane Couch, the goddess of the gloves. Yes, that's the type of girl for me, She's handsome, strong and sinewy: A sexy look, a great left hook, I wouldn't care if she can't cook. A lovers' dispute I suppose May well lead to a broken nose But I could wear the thing with pride The Fleetwood tigress by my side. Her picture's on my garret wall... I tremble and await her call.

Just take the cash and throw it in -Programme 5: Short wash/quick spin. Those stubborn stains and musty smells On money made by drug cartels Are banished almost overnight And profits come up dazzling white. The City Law Firm Launderette: "We haven't lost an item uet."

The "headline indicators" are We drink too much, we Brits, by far And on the Happiness Index Drink's several points ahead of sex. The sickness, fights and blood that's spilt, Accompanied by dreadful guilt, And then of course, my throbbing head... I'll have to take up drink instead.

To swim the last bit to the Dome. The Jubilee Line schedule fails And strikes may drive it off the rails. So out of solidarity I work to rule in sympathy. For safety reasons, on this rhyme.

Therefore, I can't complete on

In spite of what the planners say

Delays could blight the Year 2K,

So be prepared when you leave home

THE WEASEL

The glacial snap of Stockholm in November is offset by jugs of fiery acquavit and contemplating the city's bizarre maritime past

DON'T ASK why, but I found myself in the other had a neat square hole Stockholm for a couple of days last week. Though a surpassingly beautiful city, lodged on a cluster of Baltic islands, I'd hesitate before recommending an out-of-season break - not so much because the temperature was a bracing -6°C, but because the eye-wateringly extortionate British Airways fare was the wrong side of five hundred quid. Still, with someone else footing the bill, I commenced explorations with a light heart.

Stockholm must be one of the few capitals to have dangerous-looking rapids hurtling through its heart. Near the parliament building, half a dozen anglers dangled lines in the black torrent. Even for a nation as fish-obsessed as the Swedes, this appeared absurdly optimistic – but then, at the feet of one fisherman, I saw a calligraphic smear of blood in the powdery snow leading to a two-and-a-half-foot salmon.

Though I missed the department store where Greta Garbo once sold hats. I was reminded of another distinctive contribution of Swedish cinema in Stockholm's Medieval Museum, Built around the sole surviving fragment of city wall (rarely can grouting have been so celebrated), this institution contains several replica medieval houses (apparently, dried cod played a big part in interior decor back then) and an ancient wooden boat extracted from the mud of the Baltic (as we shall see, such items are by no means rare in Stockholm's museums). In a cabinet, a couple of 14th-century skulls grinned horribly. One was punctured by a bul-let-hole in the middle of the forehead,

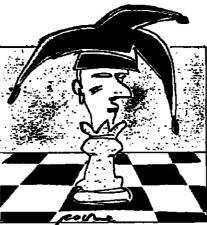
clipped by a crossbow bolt. Underlining the transience of life, a medieval mural featured the figure of Death playing chess with a peasant. So that's where Ingmar Bergman (and in due course Monty Python, Woody Allen, French & Saunders etc) got it from.

I was so cheered at finding the original of the great Swedish joke that, despite the slush, I walked off with a spring in my stride.

MY NEXT stop was the National Museum, the Swedish equivalent of the V&A, where the annual Excellent Swedish Design exhibition drew an appreciative crowd of spectators. Judging by the Sixtiesstyle cabinets and chairs which predominated among the 40-odd winners, anyone who has clung on to their G-plan furniture will soon be back at the cutting edge of fashion. Amid the long-stemmed aquavit glasses, hefty frying pans and grained wooden spoons, there were just two items from Sweden's most popular export after Abba. Sadly for Ikea fans, they won't be able to get their hands on one of these prizewinners, though it was judged "absolutely the right design for conserving Ikea's culture". It was a manual for the firm's Swedish employees, modelled on a child's exercise book. But perhaps the other item will have pride of place in many British homes soon. It was a cardboard box commended for "admirable information graph-

ics and pedagogical colour scheme".

ASIDE FROM the belief that all Swedish women are blonde goddesses (they look pretty much like the British version), the most commonly held misapprehension about Sweden is that pubs are impossibly expensive. We tend to forget that pubs are now impossibly expensive in Britain too. In fact, if you choose the right place, Swedish drink is somewhat cheaper. In the Pelikan,



a pleasantly old-fashioned beer-hall recommended in the Rough Guide, an ice-cooled flask containing four mea-

sures of aquavit was a touch over £3. Like many other patrons, I accompanied this combustible beverage with a local speciality called pytt i panna - a sort of corned-beef hash topped with a fried egg and accompanied by beetroot. As a result of this calorific re-fuelling, the glacial night felt positively Caribbean when I emerged.

Stockholm's old town on the following aside from a flamboyant baroque statue of a camp-looking dragon being given a seeing-to by the notorious

vermifuge St George. Nearby, trumpettootling angels raised giant-sized crowns over a pair of royal pews which resembled padded cells.

It's very handy for Sweden's bicycling royalty since the palace is just round the corner. No railings surround this fairly modest structure so I ambled into a central courtyard where, in the murk, there seemed to be just one other tourist staring into mid-air. Suddenly, he stomped towards me and thrust an automatic rifle in my face, then turned and clattered back to his original post.

A 10-MINUTE ferry journey to yet another island takes you to a specially built museum containing the Vasa. This preposterously vast

warship sank in 1628 after a maiden voyage lasting just twice as long as my ferry journey. Raised from the mud in 1961, it is hard to beat as an example of hubris carved in wood. Because shipworms cannot survive in the brackish Baltic, the detail of the vessel is in far better nick than the Mary Rose, which an undiscriminating eye might mistake for a lumberheap. But even nonmariners can instantly see there is something radically wonky about the

SAUNTERING THROUGH the cobbied Vasa. With every inch covered in coats streets (mercifully traffic-free) of of arms and grotesque carvings, the stern resembles a nightmarish woodatternoon, I popped into the cathedral.

This was a model of Swedish restraint,
aside from a flowborner transfer. It goes up and up and
up. The main culprit for this botch seems to have been Gustavus Adolphus, who demanded an additional gundeck. Then, as now, a prince could not be naysayed for ridiculous architectural notions. The first time a puff of wind filled the sails, the vessel went down "sails, flags and all", with its skeleton crew of 50. No one was ever blamed.

Possessions recovered from this juggernaut reveal that the Swedish obsession with design is nothing new. The beautifully turned wooden mortar, the fashionably ethnic terracotta cooking pots, the miniature backgammon set. the pewter plates, even the two pewter chamber pots, all look as if they could have been sold yesterday. This is literally true since copies are available at the museum shop. Cooking pots will set you back £25; pewter plates £125. No chamber pots, sadly. But the souvenir which took my eye was a half-size version of one of the Vasa's cannons for £8,000. "Yes, certainly it fires," the shop manager assured me. "You can buy cannon balls for 130 kroner [£10]."

I was tempted to bring one of these back to Weasel Villas, but I suppose British Airways would have kicked up a fuss about bringing weapons on board. Instead, as part of my long-run-ning campaign to induce a love of fish in the carnivorous Mrs Weasel, I took back three sides of gravadlax. Inexplicably, she was a bit sniffy about this romantic souvenir of Scandinavia.

SPIRIT OF THE AGE

PAUL VALLELY

Can our rights be universal?

evident." So said the founding fathers of the United States in their declaration of independence. Those were the days. In this age of uncertainty, what is there left which is self-evident to us? This is the epoch of post-modernism, when the quest for a universal narrative is over, and each of us must tell a different story. More than that, our relativist consensus judges each of them to be of equal validity. Tolerance of one another is as much as we can hope for.

But perhaps there is something more. Earlier this week a group of scholars from the three Abrahamic religions got together to consider the Rights, which celebrates its 50th anniversary next month. They were concerned to highlight the fact that in all three traditions - Jewish, Christian and Muslim - there is a clear basis of support for the declaration. In the process,

a more interesting question arose. Are all self-evident truths merely statements of faith - or can they be arrived at by reason? There were those, like Ian Markham, a Christian professor of "theology and public life", who insisted that secular human rights are merely religious statements in disguise. The American fathers went on to explain that their idea of what was self-evident was drawn from the belief that "all men... are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights". In the same way, Markham insisted, modern secularist statements

"WE HOLD these truths to be self- are drawn from a culture whose assumptions are inherently theistic. Religion, as the Jewish scholar Edward Kessler told the seminar, is at the root of human rights,

Hollow laughs all round, then, from those who suffered at the hands of the Inquisition or its modern-day equivalents: the Taliban, the zealots of Zionism or the Christians who murder doctors engaged in abortion. Those like Markham are unperturbed. Yes, throughout history, people have violated human rights in the name of religion - but in doing so they betrayed the tradition they purported to uphold.

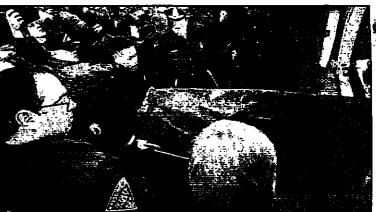
The irony is that the secular West tral to its social discourse, while undermining any possible justification of such language. "If ultimately humans are nothing more than complex bundles of atoms emerging from a blind and irrational process and facing extinction when we die," Markham told the meeting of the Interfaith Foundation, "then it is difficult to see how we can affirm

the inherent dignity of people." This is not a picture those in the tradition of John Locke, Thomas Paine or the French Revolution theorists would accept. Yet it was an Enlightenment thinker, Jeremy Bentham, who insisted there are "no such things as natural rights, no such things as rights anterior to the establishment of government, no such things as natural rights [as] opposed to legal [ones]. Natural rights [are]... nonsense upon stilts."

If that is true, rights are purely empirical and probably local to each culture. So how - in a post-modern world - can we justify any claim that is universal and objective? Saying that the law ought to be linked with the moral codes of the community is not much help; the Nazis had significant support from the German national community for the killing of Jews, homosexuals and gypsies.
In the end, said Dr Elizabeth

Vallance of the Interfaith Foundation's committee, you cannot justify basic principles; you just choose them. I was unconvinced, for we don't choose starting from a blank sheet. We are born into inherit frameworks within which to exercise our reason. And, if our culture's old formula, which embedded rights in law and responsibilities in religion, has broken down with the growth of secularisation, where does that leave us?

Yet there was a challenge even to the basis of this exchange. The Human Rights Declaration is billed as "universal", said the Muslim academic Dr Zaki Badawi; but the US baseball championship is described as a World Series, though only Americans play in it. For many, "universal" is just a cloak for the values of the affluent West. For the homeless or starving, freedom of speech or assembly mean little. And, though the Muslim feminist Dr Sula Taji-Farouki conceded that Muslim countries are among the worst abusers



of human rights, Islam's communalism and strong sense of social responsibility could also be a check on the abuses that

flow from individualism. It was wrong, said another Islamic scholar, that no Hindu, Muslim or Sikh was involved in drawing up the 1948 declaration. Yet if Muslims feel affronted by that, it does not automatically invalidate what the declaration says. After all, gravity isn't Western just because it was Newton who discovered it. So why do Muslims embrace Western science so easily and yet not

other aspects of modernity? Modernity is a double-edged sword, said the academic Dr Iftikhar Malik. It boasts of tolerance, yet minorities were better tolerated in Moorish Spain and the Ottoman Empire than in mod-

ern Europe. Modernity brought us the Holocaust, ethnic cleansing and a particularly brutish kind of nationalism. And are the Western signatories to the Declaration any less hypocritical? Since signing, the French have killed 1.5 million Algerians, and the Americans countless Vietnamese. And yet modernity has brought us together, said Rabbi Jonathan Magonet, "but for modernity, we wouldn't even be talking to each other."

Religions, as Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, have a lot to learn from secular society. But religions - which are collective by nature where the human rights declaration is individualistic clearly have something to say about the roots of secularism. The seminar ended, but the debate continues.

DAYS LIKE THESE

4 DECEMBER 1904

RAINER MARIA RILKE pictured) writes to Lou Andreas Salome from Denmark:

We drove down a long avenue of old lime trees, the sleigh swung round and there was the forecourt. flanked by the two wings of the building. But yonder. wearily and toilsomely out of the snow up to the terrace. bounded by a balustrade decorated with stone urns made as though to lead into the house, there was nothing, nothing but a few shrubs in snow; and sky, a grev, tremulous sky, from which falling flakes detached themselves into the dusk. You had to tell yourself: No, there is no house there. Nevertheless, you still felt it was there. somehow you sensed that the air behind this terrace had not yet become one with the rest of the air, that it was still divided up into corridors and rooms, and that it formed a hall in the



middle, a high, empty, deserted, twilit hall."

2 DECEMBER 1901

SOFIA TOLSTOY. wife of the novelist, writes in her diary:

"Now that physical infirmity has forced Lev Nikolaevich to abandon physical relations with his wife this was not so long ago), instead of that peaceful affectionate friendship which I have longed for in vain all my life, there remains nothing but complete emptiness. Morning and evening he greets me and leaves me with a cold and formal kiss. He calmly accepts my

anxieties about him as his due and tends to regard the world about him with utter indifference. There are now only two things that excite, interest and torment him in the material and intellectual realms - death and his work."

3 DECEMBER 1838

FREDERIC CHOPIN writes from Palma to his friend Julian Fontana in Paris:

"I've been as sick as a dog... I had caught cold in spite of the 18 degrees centigrade, the roses, the orange trees, the palms and the fig trees. Three doctors - the most celebrated on this island examined me. One sniffed at my spittle, another tapped to find out where I spat it from, the third felt me, listening to how I spat. The first said I was going to die, the second that I was dying, the third that I was dead already... I had great difficulty in escaping their bleedings. vesicatories and pack-sheets. but, thanks be to providence,

I am myself again.'

Plea for a Jewish homeland

MY NOBLE friend told us in his speech, and I believe him absolutely, that he has no prejudice against the Jews. I think I may say that I have no prejudice in their favour. But their position and their history, their connection with world religion and with world politics, is unique. There is no parallel to it, there is nothing approaching a parallel to it, in any branch of human history.

Here you have a small race originally inhabiting a small country - I think of about the size of Wales or Belgium, at any rate of comparable size to those two - at no time in its history wielding anything that can be described as material power, sometimes crushed in between great Oriental monarchies, its inhabitants deported, then scattered, then driven out of the country altogether into every part of the world, and yet maintaining a continuity of religious and racial tradition of which we have no

parallel elsewhere. That, itself, is sufficiently remarkable, but consider - it is not a pleasant consideration, but it is one that we Europe, has not from time to time cannot forget - how they have been treated during long centuries, during centuries which, in some parts of the world, extend to the minute and the hour in which I am speaking, consider how they have been subjected to much ill will, and I do not know how it tyranny and persecution; consider could be otherwise, treated as they



CLASSIC PODIUM

From a speech in the

House of Lords by the former prime minister, Arthur Balfour, calling for the Jews to be given their own territory (21 JUNE 1922)

the whole religious organisation of proved itself guilty of great crimes against this race.

I quite understand that some members of the race may have given doubtless did give - occasion for whether the whole culture of Europe, were; but if you are going to lay stress

on that, do not forget what part they have played in the intellectual, the artistic, the philosophic and scientific development of the world. I say nothing of the economic side of their energies, for on that Christian attention has always been concentrated.

I ask your Lordships to consider the other side of their activities. Nobody who knows what he is talking about will deny that they have at least - and I am putting it more moderately than I could - rowed their weight in the boat of scientific, intellectual and artistic progress, and they are doing so to this day. You will find them in every University, in every centre of learning; and at the very moment when they were being persecuted, when some of them, at all events, were being persecuted by the Church, their philosophers were developing thoughts which the great doctors of the Church embodied in their religious system.

And yet, is there anyone here who feels content with the position of the Jews? They have been able, by this extraordinary tenacity of their race, to maintain this continuity, and they have maintained it without having any Jewish Home.

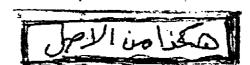
What has been the result? The result is that they have been described as parasites on every civilisation in whose affairs they have mixed themselves - very useful parasites at times, I venture to say. But however that may

be, do not your Lordships think that if Christendom - not oblivious to all the wrong it has done - can give to this race a chance, without injury to others, of showing whether it can organise a culture in a home where it will be secure from oppression: that it is not well to say, if we can do it, then we will do it.

I could defend this scheme of the Palestine Mandate from the most material economic view, and from that point of view it is capable of defence. I have endeavoured to defend it from the point of view of the existing population, and I have shown that their prosperity also is intimately bound up with the success of Zionism.

Surely, it is in order that we may send a message to every land where the Jewish race has been scattered, a message which will tell them that Christendom is not oblivious to their faith, is not unmindful of the service they have rendered to the great religions of the world, and that we desire to the best of our ability to give them that opportunity of developing, in peace and quietness under British rule, those great gifts which hitherto they have been compelled from the very nature of the case only to bring to fruition in countries which know not their language, and belong not

to their race. That is the ideal which I desire to see accomplished.



E WEEKIND REVIEW

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Who wants to spend their life in a theme park?



JOHN HANNIGAN

These are 'fantasy cities' tourism, entertainment and shopping all bundled together in a themed environment

IF ALL goes according to plan, sometime early in the next century a consortium of companies, led by Canada's Reichmann Mack there are of Clauding in London's East End), will open the already the transfer of Clauding in London's East End), will open the family (late of the Canary Wharf project doors to "Destination Technodome". The . \$450m indoor entertainment and sports complex will be built on the site of a former air-force base on the northern edge of Toronto. The facilities will include a yearround, 150m ski hill, a white-water raiting course, mountain-climbing walls, a Hollywood-inspired theme park and a 30-screen multiplex cinema. And that is in addition to a fabricated tropical rainforest and a replica of Bourbon Street in

Destination Technodome is one of a new breed of entertainment centres intended to anchor the "fantasy cities" of the future, where tourism, entertainment and retail development are to be bundled together in a "themed" environment. Multimilliondollar theme complexes are now being planned in Brussels, Barcelona, and Gerany. In Florida, Disney has gone one step further and recreated an entire village designed, managed and protected by Disney, never to feel the threat of crime or a speck of dust. The projects in Britain are much smaller in scale, so far, but at least three British companies - Rank, Virgin and Tussauds - are involved internationally. With the troubles in Asia, American coris are now e attention even more to Europe.

These urban projects are being marketed as the saviours of declining downtown cores and of stagnant suburban shopping centres. In places where the infrastructure is present and the demand is there, such as Florida and Las Vegas, they may be commercially successful. Elsewhere, as in Flint, Michigan, they have failed financially and dragged much-needed investment into non-productive dreams.

Critics, such as the US writer Paul Goldherger areas that this

of leisure will further encourage the privatisation of public places and the erosion of neighbourhood identities. Goldberger labels developments such as Destination Technodome "urbanoid environments". Like the pod-bred clones in the sciencefiction movie, Invasion of the Body Snatchers, they seem to be genuine, but something is not quite right. What is missing is a sense of the serendipity, diversity and humanity of traditional street life.

Account to the second s The template for these quasi-cities is the Walt Disney version of the theme park, which has forever changed our image of what urban life should be. To appeal to its n ainly white, middle-class suburban narket, Disney crafted a simulated vision of the world which was both idealised and stripped bare of any significant risk, conflict or controversy. Whether in California, Tokyo or Florida, Disneyland visitors need not worry about tripping over garbage, being accused by panhandlers and "squeegee kids", or being mugged in the middle of the day. Instead, city life means sampling "old tyme" fudge or listening to a brass band in the town square.

Similarly, exotic foreign locales are rendered accessible and safe: no language or currency problems, stomach upsets or political instability. This "sanitised razzmatazz", as the New York Times architecture writer, Herbert Muschamp, calls it, can easily triumph over the real Ang. Each year, during the March school break, several families from my wife's home town in rural Canada faithfully



make a pilgrimage to the Disney resorts in Florida. After returning last winter, one of the dads observed (without irony): "I don't need to go to the South Pacific any more. Ive already seen Tahiti at the Polynesian Village.

In adapting the Disney blueprint to the contemporary "theme park city", architects, developers and planners have borrowed and refined two key Disney tainment destinations, they have embraced an architectural style which is designed to create an aura of fantasy, delight and wellbeing among onlookers.

Whereas shopfronts along traditional high streets are often diverse, and compete with one another visually, the retail establishments in fantasy cities are uniform and harmonious, suggesting consensus and contentment. But reassuring as it may be, Disney-inspired architecture is also blatantly commercial - a fusion of consumerism, entertainment and popular culture.

At "The Showcase Mall" in Las Vegas – a non-gambling entertainment complex on the famous "Strip" - the "World of Coca-Cola" is fronted by the world's biggest Coke bottles, 100 feet high. Engineered to capitalise on the worldwide recognition of its brand name, the World of Coca-Cola contains a series of interactive exhibits which celebrate Coke bottles, jingles and memories, as well as a retail store which sells Coke-themed products. Urban culture here translates into the "Coca-Cola Salute to Folk Art", which displays the work of artists from 14 nations who have designed oversize Coke-bottle sculptures using an array of styles. Inside, the architectural highlight is the "Fantastic Fountain" featuring 866 Coke bottles which uncork a laser-like flow during a choreographed sound-and-light show.

Another significant component of the Disney model is its elaborate but largely invisible surveillance and control system. Thomas Vonier, an architect who has consulted widely with the US State Department on security matters, cites the Disney theme parks as one of the best contemporary examples of what he terms "large-scale urban control zones". At Disney World in Florida, visitors' movements are discreetly but firmly directed by a combination of recorded voices, robots in human form and employees. To ensure that guests are

technology (monoralls and other transportation systems) and physical barriers such as pools, fountains and flower gardens. An action as innocent as taking off your shoes will bring an instant intervention and reprimand. Efficient as it may be, this control system also acts to ensure that guests exclusively follow an itinerary laid out by the park's designers.

Fantasy cities have adopted this same Faneuil Hall, the prototypical "festival marketplace", developer James Rouse sent his project manager straight to Disney World to learn the most effective methods of maintenance and security. At the World Edmonton Mall, the first shopping centre in the world to devote a major portion of its space to entertainment, security guards sit behind a glass wall in Central Dispatch, monitoring banks of closed-circuit televisions and computers which reach into every corner of the mall.

In Manhattan, the Disney company has led a drive to sanitise Times Square, formerly one of America's sleaziest pornpits. Now, uniformed, radio-equipped public-safety officers employed by the Times Square Business Improvement District make twice-daily visits to the 45 locations of a computerised watch system to check citizen reports of public misbehaviour. The same no-nonsense approach is spreading to other areas of public life. In Los Angeles, transit authorities have introduced "bum-proof" benches which make sleeping impossible. And, as I found out first-hand in a library in Toronto's entertainment district, even a brief attempt at napping can earn a threat of ejection from the building's security staff.

The "disneyfication" of our cities reflects a larger societal trend toward the "commodification" and "passportisation" of experience. Today, people buy and collect "leisure experiences" the same way they do consumer goods. And like the purchase of Ralph Lauren sweaters or Gaggia espresso machines, our choices are designed to increase our holdings of 'cultural capital" - resources which can be used to give us an advantage in our dealings with others.

"Been there, done that" has become the slogan of the 1990s and the logo-imprinted souvenirs from a Hard Rock Café or a Planet Hollywood restaurant act as "passports", proclaiming not only that you have been somewhere interesting but that you directed away from or towards specific locations, Disney uses a combination of What is significant is not so much the role characters. Consequently, the line-up of Internationalist have consumed a highly rated experience.

of consumption in helping to assert status and identity but the fact that consumption is increasingly programmed by giant entertainment corporations.

In the Disney theme parks, happy endings are guaranteed. But Cinderella may find it tougher sledding in the fantasy cities of the early 31st century. It seems unlikely that the economic benefits from large-scale megaprojects like festival high-technology entertainment centres will automatically spill over into the economically depressed neighbourhoods which frequently surround them.

Cleveland, Ohio, was once an industrial powerhouse before its decline in the 1960s. Today, in the US, it is celebrated as the exemplar of resurgent urban development. With a restored entertainment district (Playhouse Square), a newly minted sports complex (Gateway Center) and the "Rock and Roll Hall of Fame" designed by superstar architect IM Pei, Cleveland is the American "comeback city" of the 1990s. Yet these glittering tourist destinations have made little economic difference to the adjacent inner city where 40 per cent of Clevelanders remain trapped beneath the poverty line.

Tourists and middle-class day-trippers flock to these glass and plastic entertainment complexes where they feel reasonably safe, though few venture beyond to patronise local bars, restaurants and small shops. Atlantic City, New Jersey is a case in point. Since 1978, the year casinos were first introduced to the city, 100 of the city's 250 restaurants have closed and its population has declined by more than a tenth. Property values have declined and there has been little demand for new inner-city housing, manufacturing or warehouse space. Soon, a section of the one remaining stable, middle-class black neighbourhood in the city will be levelled to build a tunnel linking the Atlantic City Expressway to a new \$1.5bn casino.

Not only are these fantasy entertain-ment zones expensive to build - Paramount's "Star Trek: The Experience" complex at the Las Vegas Hilton rings in at \$70m - they also have a short consumer shelf-life. This means they can be undertaken only by a clutch of deep-pocketed global entertainment companies, like Disney, Universal, Sony, Warner Bros. Paramount and Rank, who own enormous film libraries and gold-plated port-

attractions at most themed destinations is highly uniform with little local content. In these new leisure spaces, citizenship becomes equated with brand-name consumption, and the dream of a lively and creative public culture is crowded out by

pre-packaged corporate entertainment. Even holidays such as Christmas and Hallowe'en are being co-opted by commercial "theming". In a recent news . Madison Square Garden in Nev York City announced that the clothing company, Tommy Hilfiger, had agreed to sponsor "Madison Scare Garden", a Hallowe'en attraction which runs for 10 days every October. Designed to become a New York institution, much like the Christmas Spectacular at the Radio City Music Hall, there are plans to take the show across the country and into Canada.

Nor are the effects of this themedentertainment juggernaut restricted to North America. Until the recent economic meltdown in Asia, American commercial culture was flourishing in Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and other nations in the Asia-Pacific region. Tokyo Disneyland, with an annual attendance of over 17 million, is the most popular theme park on earth. There is a Nike store in Shanghai, Hard Rock Cafés in Bangkok Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, Singapore and Taipei. And "Believe It or Not!" attractions in Korea, Thailand and Hong Kong. Universal Studios has begun construction of a \$1.6bn entertainment park near Osaka, Japan, which will have areas themed to various American places (Hollywood, New York, San Francisco) and motion pictures (Jaws, Jurassic Park).

Australia, too, has embraced the entertainment model of urban development. The latest example is the \$66m Sega World entertainment centre housed in a distinctive glass-coned building on the eastern side of Darling Harbour in Sydney.

As the Japanese scholar, Mitsuhiro Yoshimoto, has shrewdly observed, in the postmodern age, America has become another brand name - just like Chanel and Armani. The danger is that this seductive new world of themed and branded entertainment will be one where any sense of common purpose or true citizenship is swamped by "made-in-America" fantasies.

The author is professor of sociology at the University of Toronto. An earlier version of this article appeared in 'New

BAROMETER

SEAN O'GRADY

Cuddle of the Week FORGET RIO. If you want to meet a big hermaphrodite make sure you get yourself down to the Dome, The

the more male of the two (thus proving that the organisers do know their arse from their elbow) and leave by the foot. You'll hear a heart pounding and a stomach gurgling (after all, one of the sponsors is McDonald's). You'll also have a brain scan. If you've got one, you're not allowed in. And nothing about what Monty Python fans will know as "the naughty bits"? Nothing so

Split of the Week NAUGHTY BITS are no problem for our 50,000 sun-loving naturists. But they are facing the biggest split in their 75 year history. The "moderates" traditional, a little shy, and organised by the Central Council of British Naturism. But the militant tendency - the out-and-out nudists - have embraced a radical agenda. They want to bare all on public beaches. Their ringleader is Mark Nisbet, who runs Starkers magazine from a shed in Bournemouth and wants rights: *"Starkers* is an agitational device to stick a spanner in the

Primates of the Week THE PG TIPS chimps. The stars still drink tea and make impolite conversation. in retirement



works." Just so long as he

doesn't miss.

they become agitated by crime shows with violence. And they are sent to bed when Planet of the Anes comes on. Don't want them

getting ideas, do we?

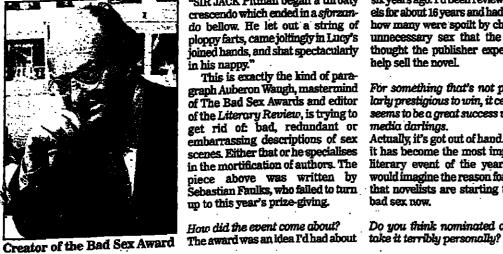
Threat of the Week THE TELLYTUBBIES are - yes. let's say it unashamedly nudist and hermaphrodite characters. But there are rumours that four new characters called A Tweenies are being groomed by the BBC to take over. Jake, Fizz, Milo and Bella are going to resemble real children: 260 episodes commissioned. Treachery.

Equation of the Week THE OPTIMAL period (L) for dunking a biscuit in your tea $L = (\gamma \times D \times t)/(4 \times \eta)$ Where $\gamma = \text{surface tension}; \eta =$ viscosity; D is a diameter of the biccie holes and t is how long it takes the tea to run into the

Image of the Week AS FAR from naked as you can

get, HM Queen in Parliament, reading out Blairite soundbites about modernisation. Wonder if she's ever considered "acting natural"?





in his nappy."

This is exactly the kind of paragraph Auberon Waugh, mastermind of The Bad Sex Awards and editor of the Literary Review, is trying to get rid of: bad, redundant or media darlings. scenes. Either that or he specialises in the mortification of authors. The piece above was written by Sehastian Faulks, who failed to turn up to this year's prize-giving.

How did the event come about?

"SIR JACK Pitman began a throaty six years ago. I'd been reviewing novcrescendo which ended in a sforzan- els for about 16 years and had noticed do bellow. He let out a string of how many were spoilt by chunks of oloppy farts, came joltingly in Lucy's unnecessary sex that the author oined hands, and shat spectacularly thought the publisher expected to help sell the novel.

For something that's not particularly prestigious to win, it certainly seems to be a great success with the embarrassing descriptions of sex Actually, it's got out of hand. I think runner up, Alan Titchmarsh, did.

it has become the most important literary event of the year and I would imagine the reason for that is that novelists are starting to drop bad sex now.

Do you think nominated authors

COLD CALL

SALLY CHATTERTON RINGS **AUBERON WAUGH**

He's the first one who hasn't. But the was just bloody boring.

Surely you could forgive Titch- write about sex reflects their sex marsh his literary failings — he's a lives?

gardener after all. and said: "Where I come from in the is its awkwardness and embar-North, sex is what the toffs put rassment It's an English thing.

Well, I think they get quite nervous. their coal in." His bad sex was Wretched Faulks didn't even turn up. charming. Carlos Fuentes's stuff

Do you think the way these people

And their general clumsiness and Hm. He's a terribly nice man. Very awkwardness. Yes. Stephen Fry funny. He made a really good speech said the great thing about British sex

We've got that reputation, I'm afraid. Do English men live up to this

We're not graceful lovers then?

reputation? Well, I don't know. Obviously I'm not prepared to talk about myself. And I don't expect you to talk about your impressions.

Given your loathing of bad sex, I presume you've never attempted a titillating paragraph yourself? Yes I jolly well have, and I'm ashamed of it. At the first award, which Melvyn Bragg won, he produced one of my early novels which had a rather bad sex scene in it.

Well, it was certainly bad enough to have been put on the shortlist.

Is it possible to write good sex? I think if you're going to, it's got to be a proper erotic novel.

Hardcore eroticism rather than just a gratuitous sexual insert? Exactly. And the essence of sex, it may sound affected to say so, but Jane Austen is quite sexy because there's an erotic tension there.

Have you had a defining erotic In my life? Not prepared to discuss it, if so. I'm sorry. But would you mind mentioning that Hamlet cigars sponsored the Bad Sex Awards?

The art of conversation is lost and men are to blame, says Theodore Zeldin, the Oxford don who gives good chat. By Jack O'Sullivan

Why it's good to talk

n Sunday, Theodore Certainly not wits or rhetoricians. He Zeldin will be at has little respect for the so-called home, hoping for a conversation. So anxious is he to chat that he has posted notices around Oxford inviting complete strangers, disappointed by small talk, to drop by. It sounds like Monty Python's "Five Minute Argument", in which a man walks into an office and pays for a verbal dust-up. Indeed, sipping tea with this gentle Oxford don, I imagine him adopting that sketch's opening lines: "Whaddayou want? You snotty-faced heap of parrot-droppings?" It would certainly break the ice. end of his monologue to the other."

But that is not quite what Dr past "too often avoided subjects Zeldin has in mind. He is a very serious person, a fellow of St Antony's College who was once described as an "historian of people's hearts". But he is best known as author of An Intimate History of Humanity, a powerful manifesto arguing that we have only just started to explore the true depth and

complexity of human interaction. His new book, subtitled "How Talk Can Change Your Life", picks up where the last one left off. Conversation is, he says, the tool to explore those uncharted depths. It is the route to a Renaissance, a way in which individuals can help each other to find new freedoms and escape the tyranny of historical

To help us in the task, he has included many of his abstract paintings, with titles such as Conversation With Someone Who Ate Barbed-Wire for Breakfast. Additionally, the book comes with 36 questions at the back, such as "What is the antidote for conversations that make us feel small?" and "How old do you have to be to converse?". He wants to stimulate us into talking endlessly about conversation, a recommendation based on the principle that lovers enrich their love by ceaselessly discussing it.

So what kind of conversationalists does Zeldin want us to become?

great conversationalists of old. His book records an amusing exchange between the poets William Wordsworth and Samuel Rogers, after they have listened to Coleridge for two hours without being given a chance to say a word. Emerging from the stream of rhetoric, the two men are initially fulsome in their praise for Coleridge. "What a wonderful man," says Wordsworth. Only after some time, with Wordsworth nodding, does Rogers admit: "I did not understand a syllable from one

For Zeldin, the great talkers of the which went too deep or were too personal. They cheated. Instead of saying what they thought, they repeated fashionable formulae or found epigrammatic ways of saying things they did not believe".

He argues, instead, for what he calls "New Conversation", one in which people are open, trusting, listening, relieved by verbal exchanges from their sense of isolation and the feeling that they are surrounded by conflict.

"I should like some of us to start conversations to dispel that darkness," he says, "to give ourselves courage, to open ourselves to strangers, and most practically, to remake our working world, so that we are no longer isolated by our jargon or professional boredom."

Dr Zeldin's goal is admirable and certainly in keeping with the fashion for confession. But I am surprised, having not met him before, to hear so little humour. He sits talking, listening, smiling benignly, his tea going cold, for nearly two hours, but not a single joke passes his lips. He is 65 years of age, yet his intense manner, bouffant hair and precise language reminds one of the child prodigy he once was, a precocious individual whose first school report stated: "He bestrides the school like a colossus."

So I ask Zeldin about humour.

telling him about my own father, who is considered something of a conversationalist, peppering his language with anecdotes and jokes. "He sounds medieval," suggests Zeldin. "They tended to spice their conversation with proverbs. But it's a simplification of conversation, based ultimately on memory rather than thought, though it can be practised with great skill." He tells me about Baghdad "which was the centre of the world in about the year 1000. Conversation there involved a lot of quotation of classical texts. The great difference between then and now is that originality is demanded". So should humour in conversation

be admired? Zeldin equivocates. but his suspicion is clear. "There are many different types. There is compassionate humour - Dickens practised it. Then there is fantasy humour such as Lewis Carroll practised. But there is also bitter humour, whose purpose is as much to hurt as to please. Think of Voltaire, for example. And there is humour aimed at avoiding straight speech. People hide behind it."

All of which brings him to why the English really are not good at conversation. "The English reputation for humour," he says, "is a way by which people avoid revealing themselves and have superficial relationships, so that you can engage in banter without making yourself vulnerable."

Likewise, when we get onto the subject of which countries excel at conversation, I begin to realise why he thinks folk in Oxford may be feeling exasperated and so drop by his house on Sunday.

"The French," he says, "have made conversation their claim to civilisation." He points to the great salons of the 18th century as providing a history to this aspiration. But Britain is different. "The British have turned their sense of humour into a national virtue. It is odd, because through much of history, humour has been considered cheap, and laughter something for the



lower orders. But British aristocrats didn't care a damn about what people thought of them, so they made humour acceptable.

"The consequence is that the British media is full of comics and banter, whereas in the French media, you have rather more respect for conversation. French radio once

conversation. Russia, for example, where he says conversation flourished almost as a reaction to totalitarianism. And Calcutta, which "prides itself on conversation. They have built rooms for it in the same way that aristocrats in Western Europe had chapels on their estates". As Zeldin discusses different

'The English sense of humour is something people use to avoid revealing themselves and leads to superficial relationships'

made a programme about me in nationalities, his love of conversation which the conversation lasted for seems to echo and reveal a love of three hours on a Sunday afternoon. No British radio station would dream of doing that."

Zeldin is, as ever, the polymath, the internationalist, the academic gadfly, and he proceeds to dip into other cultures and their attitudes to his Russian parentage that has are making innovative observations.

otherness. During our chat, he has little good to say about Britain, Ironically, as has often been remarked. he seems to speak with a slight foreign accent. He denies its exis-

survived his public-school education. Admiration for otherness also emerges as we tackle the subject of men. They are repeatedly identified in his book as anachronistic and problematic. It is men, through their attachment to bawdiness, slapstick. shop-talk and academic disputation. who slowed down progress toward what he calls "New Conversation". For Zeldin, the standard-bearers of this modern form of communication are women. And the "New Conversation", based on equality, consideration and breadth of subject, is a means to secure the rightful place of women in society.

I ask whether there is any particular skill that men, rather than women, bring to conversation? For once, Dr Zeldin is silenced. And then he replies: "I don't think there is anything a man can do that a woman cannot do." It is not an adequate answer. This is a subject upon which tence, but perhaps it is a vestige of serious scientists of relationships

But I cannot help feeling that Theodore Zeidin knows more about women than men. An Intimate History of Humanity is full of sympathetic vignettes about women, and his greatest praise is always reserved for his wife, Deardre Wilson, a fellow distinguished academic whose life's work has been a new theory of communication.

Leaving Theodore Zeklin after an enjoyable conversation. I am left with an image of that very bright child, not quite comfortable in the male. English establishment world into which he was placed, and so in search of otherness. It is what seems to give him such passions for other cultures, and what has turned him into the bearer of a refreshing. subversive message in the often arid intellectual world of Oxford.

'Conversation - How Talk Can-Change Your Life', by Theodore Zeldin, is published by The Harvill Press, price £6.99

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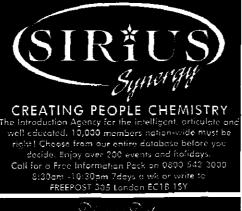
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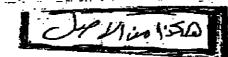


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By Jack O'Sulliva

WEEKIND REVIEW

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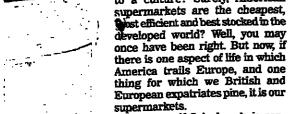
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Safeway and Food Lion, could benefit from some new ideas. To clarify: when we ex-pats long. a Sainsbury's or Tesco or Auchan of Carrefour, we are not after Typhoo Tea and Marmite, or their native equivalent. What is wrong with America's supermarkets is not what they do not sell, but what they do sell, and how they go about it.

Although the stores are invariably vast, as vast in many cases as a French hypermarché, the aisles are narrow and endlessly cluttered with all manner of showbiz displays and promotions. It takes just two trolleys in one aisle to make a traffic jam. The design of the stores is chaotic. Large hanging placards above aisles give only the barest information of what is shelved beneath. And anyway, American supermarkets seem to be in a perpetual refurbishment (tax deductible), while remaining strangely old-fashloned when the builders have gone. Despite the army of assistants wielding mops and brooms all day.

they always look less than clean. Then there are the goods. You'd imagine, this being America, that sell-by dates are obscured by the a myth that American food is cheap.

, My fight for a place in history

MY WEEK

FIVE DAYS IN THE LIFE OF WORLD WELTERWEIGHT CHAMPION JANE COUCH, BRITAIN'S FIRST LICENSED FEMALE BOXER WHO, LAST WEDNESDAY, KNOCKED OUT SIMONE LUKIC OF FRANKFURT IN JUST OVER A MINUTE

Sunday

Started training with Tex, my manager, in the morning at about 9.30am at Spanoirum Farm in Bristol. Trained for just over an hour, mainly circuit training, sit-ups and press-ups. Today was the last day of training after 16 weeks of intensive work. I always need about two to three days' rest for mental preparation before a fight

I've been training twice a day very hard and it's a spartan kind of life; you don't get to do much socialising. i just shut myself off from the rest of the world to concentrate.

In the afternoon I had to open a gym in a local hotel in Bristol. Went back to the gym again for my final training session at about 7pm; sharpening up my shadow-boxing to get my mind ready for the fight. Need to rest in the evening to get

my sharpness and energy back. By this stage I can't wait to get it over with. Watched a film and went to bed at 9pm. I feel ready to fight and can't wait until Wednesday.

Monday

get my energy back. Had a TV interview at 11am; I find doing a lot of press really takes it out of you. Spent the afternoon doing more radio and TV interviews; my phone was ringing non-stop. As the day approaches, press interest increases and so does the pressure. You feel like the eyes of the world are on you.

Went home to pack and get ready to fly to Manchester for a BBC show. Had some dinner before I left; I don't really worry about my weight because I'm always bang on 10 with Julia Summerfield for ITN. stone. I like my food and try to eat She was really nice and supportive: a lot of carbohydrates, bread, fish it's good to do something to pass the

spite selling its misfired stake in the

Giant supermarket chain and

despite speculation to the contrary,

Sainsbury's was hanging on in the

small expansion of a British super-

market be so welcome in the land

where shopping has been elevated

to a culture? Surely, American

st efficient and best stocked in the

And even if Sainsbury's is con-

centrating its efforts on a manage-

able corner of this country and

never reaches New York or Wash-

ington, we can but hope that its in-

fluence spreads. America's tired

supermarket chains, like Wal-Mart,

But why, you ask, should the

United States.

bohydrates for energy. My body is re-

enough to work with. Got to Manchester at about 3.30pm and the show went really well. There were loads of young girls who had started boxing or wanted to get into the sport. A lot of them feel that the world is against them and they get told that women shouldn't box. I told them that they shouldn't think that they are different just because they want to box. Got away from the studio at about 8pm and went back to the hotel. I was feeling a bit tired and thinking about the weigh-in the next day.

Tuesday

Got a flight back to London in the morning. Went straight to a hotel in Streatham where I dropped off my stuff, got changed and walked to the weigh-in. Then I got the shock of my life: there were about 200 people in there. The media attention is mentally tiring although I'm getting used to it now. I suppose history is being made, though. There are Stayed in bed until 10am trying to more people here than at a Mike Tyson fight. I guess the attention comes with the territory.

In the evening, I started to think about tomorrow. You do get butterflies but I've been there before so I know I'll be all right.

Wednesday

Woke up at 10.30am; had some fruit and water. I don't eat that much on the day of a fight because my nerves went off to do the lunchtime news bed.

and fruit. I need a high intake of car-time before the fight. After that I went back to the hotel and put my building energy so I have to put in feet up. My nerves are getting pretty bad. Got to Caesars Palace at 6,55pm and there was a huge queue of people outside; signed some au-tographs before I went in. The crowds were excellent.

During a fight, I try not to think about my opponent. When I saw her, though, I was a bit worried about her height: she looked tall and fit.

Went to my dressing room to get changed. The referee came in to give me the instructions, then I put on my shorts and my chest guard. Did some shadow-boxing, hitting pads for the next 15 minutes.

When I go out to the ring I don't ook at the crowds, just the ring. Everyone is screaming and shout-ing while I'm thinking, "Come on, hurry up." I'm a bit tense in the first

round, the crowd is going mental. When I know I've won I feel on top of the world; I feel high on adrenalin. After that everyone's crowding round wanting to interview me. My friends and family are there to congratulate me.

By 11pm we had to get security to get us out by the fire exit. Went back to the hotel and stayed up until 6am in the morning drinking with my family and friends.

Thursday

Woke up at 8am and felt like I was dying. Got on a train back to Blackpool with my mum and friends. My mobile is ringing non-stop throughout the journey. Arrived home at are shot away. After breakfast I about 5pm and went straight to

> INTERVIEW BY DAISY PRICE



Jane Couch: 'As the day gets closer so does the interest. You feel like the eyes of the world are on you'

good old British aisles

DRIVING TO the office this week, For a nation where shopping is religion, US supermarkets are along roads which were empty due to Thanksgiving, I caught one of the still in the dark ages. But ex-pat prayers have been answered: most cheering news reports I had heard for a long time. Sainsbury's Sainsbury's is to launch in America. By Mary Dejevsky - your real, genuine, British Sainsbury's - was buying the Star Markets chain of foodshops in New England. This was joyous news indeed. It suggested that de-



Supermarket weep: shoppers scan the half-empty shelves of a New York grocery store

there would be an exciting cornucopia to choose from. But a close look reveals a disappointing uniformity. Each supermarket has the same brands of pre-packaged everything - meats, pizzas, mayonnaise, baked goods, teas - as every other supermarket. There is no real difference between a Safeway and a Giant in terms of choice. Nor is that choice as wide as it

appears. The majority of shelf-space is occupied by sweet products cakes, puddings, "candy", soft drinks. The range of savoury and fresh goods is relatively tiny.

Within the brands, there are minute variations that require a close examination of almost unreadable labels. Useful details like prices at British supermarkets, it is the contents is misleading.

ubiquitous "lo-fat", "no-fat" claims (but no corresponding admission of the jacked-up sugar and calorie content). And, of course, none of the labels contains information that would in any way damage the allpowerful food lobbies: nothing about hormones in meat, genetically modified vegetables, or added water.

As for fruit and vegetables, the range and quality in many American supermarkets is disgraceful. Some of the stuff on display would be branded mouldy in Britain and taken off the shelves. Washed and bagged potatoes are not the supermarket staple they are in Europe. Here, you have to scrub them yourself. Whatever the recent criticism of food

American junk food is cheap; the rest is not. My grocery bills at Safeway (equivalent to a mainstream British supermarket) are around 30 per cent higher than they would be at Sainsbury's or Tesco. That is because the amount of fruit, vegetables and savouries in my trolley - standard American fare, I hasten to add, not recherché imported produce - is higher than many Americans would

cheap; nor is orange juice, nor meat. If you buy giant packs of cereal, sliced bread, peanut butter and mayonnaise, factory-produced cheese, hamburgers and soft drinks, you can eat cheaply. But beware: the size of the packaging compared to Fruit and vegetables are taste-

buy. Fruit and vegetables are not

less, because they have been harvested and packed for long distance distribution before they were ripe. And what look like giant pieces of meat, fruit and vegetables often cook down to a fraction of their size. You have to buy bigger quantities in the US to obtain the portions you would get in Britain.

The doubts about quality and the tastelessness of much massproduced American food have propelled many higher-income Americans to try the new clutch of smaller, specialised supermarkets that sell ecologically sound produce (and charge correspondingly higher prices). The result is that there are increasingly two classes of Americans: those who can afford good food and those who cannot.

Perhaps the biggest advantage of the British supermarket, however, is the choice of convenience foods. The convenience food industry in the United States is at a primitive stage of development. There are canned and frozen meals, TV dinners and the like, but portions are paltry, the taste is negligible, and the actual contents often indiscernible. It is small wonder, then, that so

many Americans resort to fast food or take-outs. The lower cost of labour in the US, which often makes take-out food cheaper than anything you could cook yourself, may be one reason why prepared food lags so far behind British (or even Canadian) standards. Even the fad for salad bars, which produce a handsome profit for supermarkets because of the mark-up, has passed

because of concern about hygiene. For all these reasons any British supermarket should theoretically be able to find a niche in the US. But the history of British retailers' attempts to enter or expand in the US has not been glorious. American consultants offer several explanations: the companies are too small, the distribution chain is too long, tastes are different. They say the British choose their sites poorly and do not understand the American shoppers' need to believe (through discounting) that they are getting a bargain.

Perhaps now is the time for a British breakthrough. But American shoppers - the richer ones - seem ready to pay more for better produce and a more congenial experience in the supermarket. Perhaps the Sainsbury's American venture will succeed. Every visit to an American supermarket makes me hope so.

Gym'll fix it

WE MUST have been married for five years or so before Ginny mentioned in passing that she'd once danced with Bobby Charlton. This was circa 1970, when he was about the most famous Englishman in the world. That's something to tell our sons. The best I can manage is

having seen George Best playing football live - just once, and in the company of about 40,000 other people. But Ginny was there, with only a handful of others, boogie-ing the night away under a glitter-ball with Bobby, whom I fondly imagine flicking that long lick of hair back into place across his shiny pate every time his struttings shifted it out of position. (It's probably a good thing that Ginny does not make the same boast of Best: I don't think George ever bothered to dance with girls...)

Most of the time, it must be said, Ginny and I have broadly similar tastes and interests. which is pretty useful to any two people who intend to live together for any length of time. But we diverge when it comes to sport. There is only one sporting moment which grabs Ginny's attention, and it comes when some male exemplar bursts into tears in public -Gazza springs to mind, and Kim Hughes, a cricketer who wept buckets when he was sacked as captain of Australia. What attracts her is seeing the hard, aggressive masculinity projected by sporting icons dissolve in those salty tears: tough men are instantly reduced to little boys.

The sporting divide exists even when we attempt to do sport together. One of the advantages of a freelance lifestyle is that, on a Monday morning, we can set off together for the gym. But once there, Ginny heads into an aerobics class with 30 other women, while I am dispatched to the weights room to pump iron with the boys. I have tried to persuade Ginny that a gentle trot in the park would do just as much good, but she's not convinced: besides, she feels self-conscious about

running in public. But what could make you more self-conscious, I counter, than dressing up in a swimsuit and leggings and bouncing around to music in a bright-lit room, with every bulge



BRUCE MILLAR reflected in the floor-to-ceiling

mirrors? I know from snippets of conversation that emerge that the participants do all monitor each other in detail but perhaps this is the point. For Ginny, running around the park feels like doing sport.

Going to aerobics, on the other hand, feels like a bunch of fourth-formers bopping around to Top of the Pops, without the distraction of boys. It's a social experience: Ginny has a whole alternative network of gym friends and emerges from the class with a soap-opera of incident and gossip to recount.
This week, the fourth-

formers are in open rebellion. The new instructor insists on treating them like infants, dividing the room in two and forcing each half to chorus "Boof, boof" "Woof, woof" in turn, and then "wheeeee" together in time to the music

Were men actually barred from this class, I asked. No. Ginny said, the occasional brave soul turns up. "But they never come back," she added with a sinister chuckle.

Ginny and I did once attend an aerobics class together. In the early Eighties, at the end of a trip across America, we found ourselves in Los Angeles, where aerobics had just become fashionable. We attended a class with 100 of the hippest Angelinos, disco music blaring, the instructor ordering "Squeeze those buns". I couldn't walk comfortably for a week afterwards, and have never been to an aerobics session since.

But it is not that memory which keeps me out of the aerobics gym at the Balham Leisure Centre. It is pure, unalloyed fear of the fourthform girls. And what would happen if I burst into tears?

THE INDEPENDENT

The Independent 28 November 1998

Peter Rees Roberts

THE ARTIST Peter Rees Roberts was more affected by the Mexican was known in particular for his artist Diego Rivera. His large paintmural works and for his career as a freelance national press artist in

He studied drawing and illustration at Wimbledon School of Art from 1939 to 1941. After being medically rejected for war service, be began to study mural painting under Professor Ernest Tristram at the Royal College of Art, which had transferred to Ambleside for the duration of the war. His paintings from the Ambleside years continued the tradition of earlier Royal College mural painting students such as Evelyn Dunbar and Cyril Mahoney.

Like Dunbar, Rees Roberts painted scenes of workers in rural industries, his 1942 tempera panels of The Bobbin Mill at Ambleside being his most ambitious and successful work at the RCA_Stanley Spencer was a strong mural painting influence at the time, but Rees Roberts said that he



ing of a gasworks, also from his time at Ambleside, is a stylised composi-tion of men and machinery that has echoes of films such as Metropolis or Charlie Chaplin's Modern Times.

While at Ambleside, Rees Roberts met Ursula McCannell, another Royal College student, Shortly before this, Ursula had made a stone head of a handsome man with strong aquiline features rather prophetically it could almost be a portrait of him. Rees Roberts in turn painted a tempera panel of Ursula in the style of Raphael, a particularly beautiful portrait that marked his feelings for her.

Ursula was the daughter of the painter Otway McCannell, and had been encouraged to paint by her father from an early age - she was the youngest exhibitor at the Royal Academy, in 1940. She had travelled to Spain with her father in 1936, and attracted much press attention when at the age of 15 she exhibited paintings inspired by the Spanish Civil War at the Redfern Gallery in 1938. Her father became principal of the Farnham School of Art in 1928, a post he held until the mid-1940s.

Rees Roberts left the Royal College in 1944, and he and Ursula married the following year. After a holiday at Mousehole in Cornwall, they settled in Farnham near Ursula's parents and Peter taught for a while alongside Otway at the Farnham School of Art.

After the war. Rees Roberts exhibited at several London galleries including the Modern Art Gallery, the Leger, the Redfern and the New English Art Club. He began to paint more in oils and his pictures, often



The right panel of The Bobbin Mill at Ambleside II (1942), tempera on board

of Cornish fishermen, became darker and more in tune with the neoromantic mood of the time. His 1945 self-portrait, The Painter in Mousehole, has a brooding intensity that is reminiscent of the heroic men in Ursula McCannell's early paintings of the Spanish Civil War.

The 1948 Picasso exhibition in London made a strong impact on Rees Roberts and his style moved closer to that of his contemporaries the Roberts, Colquboun and MacBryde. These Cubist-inspired, densely abstracted figurative paintings of the late 1940s gradually became simpler, with an increasingly brighter palette. This process was hastened by his visits to France with Ursula in the early 1950s.

Through the 1950s and early 1960s Rees Roberts exhibited at the Royal Academy and regularly with the London Group, despite the pressure of working as an advertising artist to make a living. He and Ursula had a young family, and he supported them by his work as a very successful illustrator for the national press, represented by the In-

ternation Artists' agency and by Thompson Artists. His numerous clients included Mariborough Cigarettes, Daks, KLM Airlines, the National Coal Board, Pringle Knitwear, Clark's Shoes, Allied Breweries and the Cunard Line. In the late 1940s and early 1950s he also worked as a fashion illustrator for the News

there regularly. In recent years they showed mainly in the gallery of Carlos Lozano, a friend and associate of Salvador Dali.

Rees Roberts developed a following among visitors to Cadaques for his wickedly humorous small paintings of characters and scenes observed in France and Spain; he en- ated nine large exterior wall sculp-

In 1964 he stopped working as an advertising artist and began to teach at Farnham School of Art again. He also taught at Brighton College of Art and continued to exhibit at the Royal Academy. He painted the first of what was to become a long series of mural commissions and also cre-

Norwegian Viking and Cunard lines. He completed murals for Williams & Glyn's Bank in the City, for Lloyds banks in Cambridge and Farnham. and for hospitals in Ealing and Guildford. He also exhibited at the New Ashgate Gallery in Farnham and the Century Gallery in Henley. Until earlier this year he taught art in adult education classes in Farnham.

Peter Rees Roberts had three sons: Tristan, a painter and architect: Marcus, a lecturer, painter and printmaker, and Lucien, a painter and designer. In 1989 the entire family exhibited together at the England & Co gallery in London. The exhibition, "Three Generations", included works by Ursula's father Otway, and was a tribute to the multiple talents of the McCannell/Rees Roberts dynasty.

JANE ENGLAND

Peter William Rees Roberts, artist: born Mitcham, Surrey 23 August 1923; married 1945 Ursula McCan-1980s he executed murals for several nell (three sons); died Ewshot,

Shortly before meeting Peter Rees Roberts, Ursula McCannell had made a stone head of a handsome man with strong aquiline features – rather prophetically it could almost be a portrait of him; they married a few years later

Chronicle and designed covers for Queen magazine.

In 1959 Peter and Ursula first visited Cadaques in Spain, and in 1963 bought a house there from the Spanish painter Juan José Tharrats. Cadaques was to become a second home, and from 1960 they exhibited

joyed the incongruous and quirky, and although he was modest about these pictures they proved very popular. His last series of paintings were provocatively anti-clerical, featuring Rubenesque naked women disporting themselves among blackclad priests and bishops.

tures for the Army Catering Corps Training Centre in Aldershot.

In 1970, the year after he stopped teaching at Brighton, he and Ursula bought a farmhouse at Baltimore in Ireland. During the 1970s and shipping companies including the Hampshire 22 October 1998.

Professor Niklas Luhmann

NIKLAS LUHMANN was one of the theory. This is remat cable when spected German sociologist, who (1986). one considers his ear' life.

Born in northern Jermany. in Luneburg, in 1927, he was the son of a brewery owner. His childhood and youth were spent in the schools of the Third Reich. At 15, in 1944, he Professors Schelsky and Dieter was called up to serve as an auxiliary manning anti-aircraft guns. For him, the end of the war meant several months as an American prisoner of war - a dispiriting experience as he was beaten up and his watch was stolen. He then embarked upon what looked like an orthodox middleclass career the study of law.

He chose to do this in the old university town of Freiburg im Breisgau, from 1946 to 1949, in what was then the French Zone. He returned to Luneburg in 1954 having entered the public service. A year later he joined the Lower Saxony Ministry of Culture, where he remained until 1962. During this period he was formulating his ideas.

An important breakthrough for him was his chance to take a sabbatical year, in 1960, at Harvard with Talcott Parsons. This experience led to the publication of his first book. Funktionen und Folgen formaler Organisation ("Functions and Consequences of Formal Organisation") in 1964 Between 1962 and 1965 Luhmann served as Research Fellow at the School of Administrative Sciences. Speyer, where he wrote Grundrechte als Institution ("Basic Rights as an Institution").

invited him to take over as departmental head at the Social Research Unit at Dortmund. In 1966 Luhmann was awarded his doctorate at the University of Munster by

Claessens, his books forming part of

the dissertation. At a time when German universities were facing student unrest and all structures and hierarchy were being called into question, Luhmann was appointed professor of sociology at the newly founded University of Bielefeld. More publications followed in rapid succession such as Funktion der Religion ("The Function of Religion", 1977), Trust and Power (in English, 1979), Politische Theorie im

The Differentation of Society (in In 1984 Luhmann published what is regarded as his main work, Soziale Systems ("Social Systems"). In this be summarised his theory that societies were living organ-

Wohlfahrtsstaat ("Political Theory

in the Welfare State". 1981) and

isms defined by the way people communicated within them. Luhmann had wide international contacts and his work was discussed in several languages. He was a visiting professor at a number of foreign universities including the New School of Social Research. New York, in 1975, and Northwestern University, Chicago. In the 1980s Reality is a rumour

His books brought him to the he became keenly aware of ecologfield of cybernetics and systems sky, then perhaps the most re- in Okologische Kommunikation

> In his final major work, Die Realität der Massenmedien ("The Reality of the Mass Media", 1996), he returned to a key theme. He was a ourselves at first hand. We become critic of the mass media in that he believed they had to attempt to gain mass media to inform us. Our nicand keep the attention of their audience. "This attention does not require truth but merely events or themes," that due to their value as sensation are able to gain attention. The mass media, as they become global, foster the decline of national broadcasting with a viewing public fixed geographically and politically, and this leads to the fragmentation of society.

For Luhmann reality is a rumour ("Die Wirklichkeit ist ein Gerücht").



labour we are less and less able to know reality through having seen it. more and more dependent on the ture of the world is made up increasingly of rumours that are presented to us by the mass media rather than from one person to another. This is true even though we are aware that the media do not deliver the unadulterated truth to us

in our homes. The same is true of advertising, which attempts to manipulate the viewer. The viewer is of course aware of this manipulation. But that alters nothing. More and more advertising is about "mobilising the attention" rather than selling a particular product. That is the reason why increasingly advertisements only reveal near the end who is advertising what,

Luhmann himself had a great need to communicate and he indulged himself in over 250 essays as well as 40 hooks

DAVID CHILDS

Niklas Luhmann, born Lüneburg, Germany 8 December 1927; Professor of Sociology, University of Bielefeld 1968-98; married 1960 Ursula von Walter (died 1971; two sons, one daughter); died Oerlinghausen. Germany 11 November 1998.

Liliana Brisby

Most of what we believe we know is | LILIANA BRISBY combined a deep most influential academics in the attention of Professor Helmut Schel-ical problems, which is reflected that which we have been told by the respect and affection for the tradimedia. It is based on trust in au- tions and standards of her adopted thorities, witnesses and experts. In | country, England, with the dedicaa world of the growing division of | tion and drive of the best of the cold warriors cut off from lost homes behind the Iron Curtain.

> She was born Liliana Daneva in Sofia, Bulgaria in 1923, into an eminent family closely involved with the history of Bulgaria following its emergence from Ottoman rule towards the end of the 19th century. She was the great-granddaughter

of the first Prime Minister of Bulgaria following the Congress of Berlin in 1878 and her maternal grandfather, a noted benefactor in Bulgaria, was part of the threeman delegation which toured Europe in 1886 to find a king acceptable to the great powers, successfully choosing Ferdinand of Saxe Coburg-Gotha who ruled for 31 years.

Her paternal grandfather held the posts of Prime Minister and Foreign Minister before the First World War, her father was a diplomat and her mother a renowned concert pianist and beauty. Liliana inherited a strong sense of purpose and duty from her family, charmingly tempered by good looks and an earthy sense of humour.

She completed her studies at Lau-World War, publishing a work of his-tory on Russo-Bulgarian relations in 1945. In Lausanne she met her English husband. Michael Brisby, a civil England in 1946. After a short period as a concert pianist, she began her



An earthy sense of humour

career as an Eastern Europe specialist when she joined the BBC World Service broadcasting to the

Communist bloc during the 1950s. From the World Service, she joined the Foreign Office's Information Research Department (IRD) where she worked until joining the Royal Institute of International Affairs in 1971. Here she edited its monthly journal, The World Today, from 1975 until her retirement in 1983.

As a specialist on Bulgaria, she contributed sections on the country sanne University during the Second to the Annual Register of World Events in the 1970s and in 1983 published The Truth That Killed, which was her translation of the edited broadcasts of the Bulgarian dissiengineer marrying and moving to dent author Georgi Markov, murdered in London with a poisoned umbrella in 1978. Markov's broad-

casts on Radio Free Europe exposing the comic absurdity and corruption of the dictatorship of Todor Zhivkov are widely assumed to have led to his assassination. In her books, articles and occa-

sional book reviews for The Spectator. Brisby always displayed accuracy, moral principal and a fine command of language. Despite her good looks and very feminine character she was not easily flattered and shocked the late Robert Maxwell by manfully resisting the campaign of phone calls and roses with which he sought, unsuccessfully, to persuade her to write the hagiography of Todor Zhivkov for a book he was publishing profiling Eastern European leaders.

After the collapse of Communism. Liliana Brisby was thrilled to return to her native Bulgaria for the first time since leaving before the Second World War, entertaining both old friends and new contacts with her energy and burnour. She never wallowed in the sentimentality of the returning emigré and she delighted local journalists in the Balkan moun tain town of Troyan when they asked her what single thing had made the most vivid impression on her in Bulgaria after an absence of 50 years. She replied that it was undoubtedly the medieval state of the lavatories.

ALEXANDRA MCBURNEY

Rada Liliana Daneva, writer and broadcaster: born Sofia 2 February 1923: married 1946 Michael Brisby (died 1965; two sons, one daughter): died London 30 October 1998.

St John Terrell

ST JOHN Terrell was a master showman who, every Christmas Day for 25 years, donned a tricorn and cape to re-enact George Washington's famous 1776 crossing of the Delaware river, and who made it his business to clear Richard III's blackened name.

Over the course of his career Terrell left his mark on American culture, establishing a playhouse in New Hope, Pennsylvania, in 1939 and, in 1949, a music circus in Lambertville. New Jersey, a summer theatre-in-the-round under a surped tent that became a model for similar summertime festivities across the United States and which continued to operate until 1970.

It was to attract attention to his music circus that Terrell conceived his Delaware crossing stunt in 1950.

It proved so popular and effective fact that Washington actually stood that he sustained the routine for 25 at the prow of the canoe, as Terrell years, long after the circus had did in his re-enactment. However he closed. In 1978, he passed the role was well versed in the creation of to a longtime crewman, Jack Kelly fantasy, Aged 16, he ran away to join (Grace Kelly's brother), and it even- the circus where he performed a

He campaigned to discredit Shakespeare's portrayal of Richard III as a hunchbacked murderous villain

that a historical society, the Washington Crossing Foundation, has

continued it. It is more likely to be myth than show of the 1930s.

tually became such a tradition fire-eating routine, and soon afterwards became the first voice for the hero of Jack Armstrong, the All-American Boy, a popular radio

His taste for a flamboyant lifestyle caused him to abandon studying for a degree at Columbia University in order to pursue a career in the theatre and he became a familiar figure in off-Broadway productions.

But it was his campaign to discredit Shakespeare's portrayal of Richard III as a hunchbacked murderous villain that gained him gesture this time moving the feast greater fame. Shakespeare names to a famous Manhattan delicatessen. Sir James Tyrrell, acting on the or-Sardi's, for a medieval lunch feaders of the King, as the murderer of turing wooden spoons, pewter dishthe young princes in the Tower of London. Tyrrell was one of Ter- ale and mead. rell's ancestors, and so, taking the matter personally, he undertook a

1983, on the 500th anniversary of Richard's accession, he arranged for a memorial Mass to be held in the king's honour at St Patrick's Cathedral in Manhattan. Afterwards, he held a medieval lunch at a gentlemen's club.

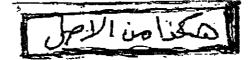
Two years later, on the 500th anniversary of Richard's death on Bosworth Field, Terrell repeated the es and a menu of quail, suckting pig,

EDWARD HELMORE

campaign to clear the king's name. St John Terrell, actor: born Chica-Whatever the truth, Terrell used go, Illinois 1917; twice married his expertise as a carnival showman (one son, two daughters); died



to attract attention to the case. In Trenton, New York 9 October 1998. Terrell chats with a fan at his 'music circus', 1952



WEEKIND RIVIEW section of Newscaring 1994

New wegater Vision; and Curade He completed murds for file & taiver . Datch in the City forly banks, in Cambradge and Page and for hospitals in Edite New Asheate Gallery in Fare and the century tidlery mis-Until carbon this year he is art in while concation des à F 417123 111

Peter Rees Roberts hais ... were Britation tanter und re-Marche excluser prints: Printenant and Louer ago and designed in 1900 the Later a ward dad fortether g-Fathers Languagery in Long. and the our little temperature. estable with the Lossies Etter er interniere befonde foretayle feeting of the McConsti Wedge to a constr-

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ting the amount

IN THE third chapter of the late Beryl Brandenburg Concertos with the Ham-Reid's autobiography, So Much Love, the actress recalls how, on the cusp of the Second World War, she fell madly in love for the first time. She was 18 years old and starring in a show called Blue Skies. The object of her affections was the brilliant pianist Brian Seymour, a decade her senior

She wrote, "I loved him so much that a year later I was prepared to sit up until two in the morning to listen to him doing a broadcast of that beautiful sentimental number 'Deep Purple' for the BBC." Seymour was born in Bath in 1910, the

son of a butcher; he allowed the opportunity to inherit the family firm to pass him by. He was educated at the City of Bath Grammar School, where he achieved renown as a dazzling boy pianist, often skipping lessons to play with a dance band at the city's Assembly Rooms. Three months after taking up his first serious job in a local music shop he was asked to leave because he spent more time entertaining customers at tle, swung his cane a little, and generthe keyboard than in selling them

Seymour's piano teacher instilled in him an upright posture. She covered the keys of the piano with a cloth, forcing him to play by touch. He particularly disliked watching planists who played in a crab-like manner, hunched over the keyboard.

The 1920s and 1930s took him all over Europe with revues and dance bands. Meanwhile invitations came in for appearances in America. These were declined on the grounds that he simply didn't like the country. Stars he appeared with included Gracie Fields, Dorothy Ward, Randolph Sutton and Anna May

The show Blue Skies was typical of the work in which Seymour was involved. It toured the Home Counties and Lancashire before the Second World War took him into the Royal Artillery where he established a concert party.

Beryl Reid visited him during that time and recalled in her book how he thrilled the officers so much that, despite being a humble lance-bombardier, he was invited into their mess for drinks and to be generally fussed over. Seymour in turn caused consternation by inviting his fellow troops into the officers' mess for dinner, dishing out the helpings himself saying, "Is that enough, darling?" while at the same time giving each some more. Halfway through the line he had served up all the food, leaving

none for the remaining soldiers. With the war in Europe over, Seymour accepted an invitation to play the Bach

Brian Seymour

burg Symphony Orchestra. It was his one serious foray into the strictly classical repertoire and not an experience he cared to repeat. Instead he turned his attentions to the world of revue and dance hall, appearing with Cyril Fletcher in The Magpie, which toured throughout Europe. He also appeared with Larry Grayson, then known as Billy Breen, and recorded a couple of LPs with Randolph Sutton. Earlier 78s from the 1930s with the singer Donald Peers are now considered valuable collectors' items.

A stint on Blackpool Pier - every pier worth its salt had a resident summer pianist to entertain post-war holidaymakers - led to Seymour's 16 years conducting Ted Dwyer's Follies, a longrunning show which entertained visitors to Skegness Pier Theatre each summer until 1968. It ran from Whitsum until the last Saturday in September with five programme changes during the season. In it, Seymour danced a little, sang a litally appeared in choruses and sketches to the delight and amusement of residents and tourists alike.

One of his last tours before retiring in 1974 was Thanks for the Memory, which brought back music hall stars

At Skegness Pier Theatre, Seymour danced a little, sang a little, and swung his cane a little, to the delight and amusement of residents and tourists alike

from yesteryear including Ella Shields, the original Burlington Bertie. Seymour subsequently entertained drinkers at the Compton Arms, at Highbury Corner, in north London, which was managed by his friend Frank Beasley. before the pair of them slipped comfortably into retirement in Bath.

The mutual affection between Seymour and Beryl Reid - which receives her feelings for either of her two hus-



Is that enough, darling?"

bands-remained until her death in 1996. The two continued to correspond and when Seymour retired, Reid visited him many times, describing with some relish how his apartment in Bath's Georgian quarter was "covered with photographs of me when I was in my

After his retirement, he never touched the keyboard again although, far more prominence in her book than along with mountains of memorabilia,

the same piano he had learnt on threequarters of a century earlier, despite it taking up half his kitchen.

Brian Seymour is survived by Beasley, his friend for 54 years, whose gain was Beryl Reid's loss.

TIM BULLAMORE

Brian Seymour-Jones (Brian Seymour), showman and pianist: born Bath 24 March 1910; died Bath 18



GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES

CHRISTOPHER ONDAATJE

The source of the Nile, I presume?

AT THE beginning of the 19th century, Europeans knew very little about Africa. the Moon, But confirming his data was no simple matter. The Royal Geographical Livingstone, who had learned In a remarkably short time. missionaries arrived. Then came explorers, who mapped rivers and mountains, and catalogued flora and fauna. These explorations paved the way for increasing European domination, until, 100 years later, the enormous continent was ruled by

European powers. By the end of the 20th century, Africa seems again a great unknown - a continent gripped by political turmoil, wrestling with huge economic and environmental challenges, and struggling to define itself and emerge from the long shadow cast by colonialism. The intricate origins of the Nile, the greatest of Africa's rivers, still intrigue us, invite study

and compel awe.
The Nile is the longest river in the world: 6,695km long. From ancient times the fact that it flows through a desert, and that it floods annually, fascinated people. Where does all this water come from? Claudius Ptolemy, who lived in Alexandria in the second century AD, collected travellers' tales from which he constructed maps showing the whole of the known world. He correctly stated that the Nile flowed out of two or three great reserthe equator in the heart of Herold newspaper, chose one Africa - the Mountains of of his reporters, Henry Mor-

Society sent Richard Burton to investigate. But Burton never saw the source of the Nile. John Speke, on a side

trip north from the town of

Tabora, claimed to have seen

a huge inland sea which he concluded must be the Nile's source and convinced the society that it should sponsor him to explore this lake and its connection to the Nile. He convinced James Grant to accompany him. Speke "discovered" the Victoria Nile and Ripon Falls, and had heard of yet another great lake which had something to do with the headwaters of the Nile. The round trip took two years, but they became the first Europeans to see

Lake Albert

In England during those two years, the disagreement between Burton and Speke about the source of the Nile had flared into a controversy. The afternoon before the two were to debate the matter in public, Speke died in a shooting accident. The RGS selected the most famous explorer of the day, Dr David Livingstone, to resolve the controversy and sponsored his third trip to Africa. Shortly after Livingstone started inland, he lost touch with the British authorities in Zanzibar and was rumoured to voirs located in a great ice- have died. James Gordon capped mountain range on Bennett Jnr, the owner of The

very little about the Nile's source in five years of effort and had shifted his attention from exploration to ways of combating slavery. The two quickly became friends and in a month they did more in terms of the Nile question than the doctor had managed to do on his own - they proved that the Ruzizi River flowed into the north end of Lake Tanganyika. Thus, the only possible connection between this lake and the Nile was the Lualaba River.

Stanley could not stav longer, but left Livingstone what supplies he could and sent more to him from Zanzibar. When he heard of Livingstone's death the next year, Stanley gained the support of two newspapers for an expedition to finish Livingstone's work. He circumnavigated Lake Victoria, he saw Lake Edward and he sailed down the Lualaba and proved that it was a tributary of the Congo River, not the Nile, by following it to its mouth on the Atlantic coast.

These were not the only Victorian explorers, but they were the ones whose work ultimately resulted in the mystery of the Nile's source being clearly articulated and eventually solved.

Christopher Ondaatje is the author of Journey to the Source of the Nile' (Harper-

GAZETTE

Derek Jameson, radio pre-

BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

DEATHS

INMAN: Deirdre, formerly Bland, nee Hart-Davis, died peacefully at home on 23 November. Greatly beloved mother of Susie, Annabel and Lucy Funeral at Southover Church, Lewes, on Friday 4 December at 11.45am. Flowers to Cooper & Son, 42 High Street, Lewes, BN7 2DD, 01273 475557.

MAULE: Jeremy Frank, on 25
November, aged 46. Son of Frank
and the late Dorothy Maule,
and stepson of Christine Maule.
Fellow and Lecturer in English,
Trinity College, Cambridge.
Fineral 3 December, 3pm in
Trinity College Chapel. All welcome. Enquiries and donations
in his memory to the Fellows'
Secretary, Trinity College.
Memorial service planned for
the new year.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

TODAY: The Household **Cavalry Mounted Regiment** mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards. 11am; No 7 Company Grenadier Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11.30am, band provided by Tthe Scots Guards.

TOMORROW: The **Household Cavalry Mounted** Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 10am.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniver-saries, In memoriam) are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra). OTHER Gazette announcements (notices, functions, Forthcoming marriages, Marriages), which must be submitted in writing are charged at £10 a line, VAT extra. Always include a day-time telephone number.

linguist, 75; Miss Fiona Armstrong, television pre-Vice-Chancellor, Queen's University of Belfast, 65; Vice-Admiral Sir David on skater, 78; Sir David Croom-Johnston, former Lord Justice of Appeal, 84; Mr Alistair Darling MP, Security, 45; Mr Terence Dunblane, 73; Miss Hope League, 54; Professor anthropologist, 90; Lord Macdonald, Chief of the Name and Arms of Macdon MP, 45; General Sir David Mostyn, 70; Miss Dervla Murphy, writer, 67; Mr Randy Newman, singer and songwriter, 55; Sir Idris sor Sir Lewis Robertson, tor, 76; Mr Stephen Roche, cyclist, 39; The Right Rev Patrick Rodger, Assistant Bishop, Edinburgh, 78; General Sir Robert Ross, former Commandant General. Smedley, High Court judge, 64; Mr Randolph Stow,

TOMORROW: Professor Derek Day, former High Howard, historian, 76; Mr

BIRTHDAYS TODAY: Mr Kriss Akabusi,

Olympic athlete, 40; Profes-

sor Giovanni Aquilecchia, senter, 42: Sir Gordon Beveridge, president and former Brown, naval consultant, 71: Mr Geoffrey Clarke, artist and sculptor, 74; Miss Cecilia Colledge, former champi-Secretary of State for Social Frisby, actor and playwright, 66: The Right Rev Michael Hare Duke, former bishop of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Lange, actress, 67; Mr Peter Leaver QC, Chief Executive, Football Association Premier Claude Lévi-Strauss, social ald, 51; Mr Gordon Marsden Pearce, surveyor, 65; Profesindustrialist and administra-Royal Marines, 59; Sir Brian novelist and poet, 63; Sir

Raymond Whitney MP, 68. Sir Ivor Batchelor, psychiatrist, 82; M Jacques Chirac, President of France, 66; Sir Commissioner in Canada, 71; Mr Ryan Giggs, footballer. 25; Professor Sir Michael

senter and former editor, 69; Professor Frank Kermode. literary critic, 79; Mr James McCulloch, ambassador to Iceland, 58; Mr John Mavall, rhythm and blues musician, 65; Mr Geoffrey Moorhouse, writer, 67; Sir Alan Moses, High Court judge, 53; Dame Shirley Porter, former Lord Mayor of Westminster, 68; Professor David Rhind, director-general and chief executive, Ordnance Survey, 55; Mr David Rintoul, actor, 49; Mr Toby Robertson, theatrical director, 70; Mr David Rogers, chief executive. Amstrad, 52; Dame Janet Smith QC, High Court judge, 58; Sir David Steel, former chairman, the Wellcome Trust, 82; Sir Dennis Weatherstone, former chairman and chief executive, J.P.

ANNIVERSARIES

operatic mezzo-soprano, 38.

Morgan & Co, New York, 68;

Mr Alan Lee Williams,

director, Atlantic Council.

68; Miss Louise Winter,

TODAY Births: Jean-Baptiste Lully (Giovanni Battista Lulli), composer, 1632; William Blake, poet and painter, 1757; Friedrich Engels, socialist, 1820; Anton Grigoryevich Rubinstein, pianist and composer, 1829; John Wesley Hyatt, inventor of celluloid, 1837; Nancy Mitford, writer, 1904: Alberto (Pincherle) Moravia, writer, 1907.

Deaths: Edward Plantagenet, 18th Earl of Warwick, beheaded 1499; Matsuo Basho, poet, 1694; Washington Irving, writer, 1859; Mary Fairfax Somerville, mathematician, 1872; "Lord" George Sanger, circus proprietor, murdered 1911; Dwight Filley Davis, sponsor of the Davis cup for tennis. 1945; Enid Mary Blyton, childen's writer, 1968.

On this day: the Royal Society was founded, 1660; London University was granted its charter, 1836; Sinn Fein was founded in Dublin by Arthur Griffith, 1905; the first air raid on London occurred, 1916; the **Battle of Britain Museum** at Hendon was opened. 1978; the West German chancellor, Helmut Kohl,

confederation of East and West Germany, 1989. Today is the Feast Day of St. Catherine Labouré, St James of the March, St Joseph Pig-

proposed a plan for the

natelli, St Simeon Metaphrastes and St Stephen the Younger. TOMORROW

Births: Margaret, Queen of Scotland, 1489; John Harvard, founder of Harvard University, baptised 1607; Louisa May Alcott, writer, 1832; Gertrude Jekyll, landscape architect, 1843; Busby Berkeley (William Berkeley Enos), film director and choreographer, 1895.

Deaths: Giovanni Bellini (Giambellini), painter, 1516; Thomas Wolsey, Cardinal and Lord Chancellor, 1530; Hans Holbein the Younger, painter, 1543; Sir George Edward Robey (Wade), actor and comedian, 1954; Graham Hill, racing driver, killed in an air crash 1975; Natalie Wood (Natasha Gurdin), actress, 1981; Irene Handl, actress, 1987; Ralph Rex Bellamy, actor, 1991.

On this day: the massacre of Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians occurred at Sand Creek, Colorado, by troops under Colonel Chivington, 1864; Nicholas, King of Montenegro was deposed and the kingdom united with Serbia under King Peter, 1918; Admiral Richard Byrd made the first flight over the South Pole, 1929; Yugoslavia was proclaimed a Federal People's Republic, 1945; the United Nations proposed a plan for the partition of Palestine, 1947; Parliament

passed a Bill making the IRA an illegal organisation, 1974.

Tomorrow is the Feast Day of St Brendan of Birr, St Radbod, St Saturninus or Sernin of Toulouse and St Saturninus, martyr.

LECTURES

TODAY

National Gallery: Mari Griffith, "Mythical Beasts (iv): Titian, An Allegory of Prudence", 12 noon. Victoria and Albert Museum: Matthew Cock. "Some 19th-century Photographs", 2pm. Tate Gallery: Laurence Bradbury, "The Darkened World: mysterious nightpieces", 1pm; Turner Prize Artists' Talks - Sam Taylor-Wood talks about her work, 4pm (telephone 0171-887 8604 for tickets). British Museum: Delia Pemberton, "Mahayana and the Bodhisattva Ideal". 11.30am; Delia Pemberton. "Images of Buddhism: Avalokiteshvara, Tara,

Guanyin", 1.30pm. National Portrait Gallery: Readings directed by Valerie Doulton, "Songs of Inno-cence, The Book of Thel; Songs of Experience", 1pm. TOMORROW Victoria and Albert

"Rodin", 2pm. Tate Gallery: Turner Prize Artists' Talks - Tacita Dean talks about her work, 4pm (telephone 0171-887 8604 for tickets). National Portrait Gallery: Readings directed by Valerie Doulton, "Songs of Innocence: Visions of the

Museum: Valerie Holman,

APPOINTMENTS

Daughters of Albion; Songs

Mr Michael John Burton QC, to be a Justice of the High Court, assigned to the Queen's Bench Division.

of Experience", 3pm.

This index of comforts can never be enough

a "quality-of-life barometer" provoked a light storm of comment and criticism. That the welfare of the nation is to be gauged by measures other than GDP, inflation and employment was generally welcomed - after all, money does not necessarily translate into happiness, as the National Lottery seems to be demonstrating, to everyone's secret

But the 13 "headline indicators" the Government had chosen were too few for some. Why not plot poverty, drug abuse or violent crime? What about natural beauty or rural tranquillity, complained the Council for the Protection of Rural England. In The Independent Ann Treneman regretted that there was to be no register of dog turds (surely a gross domestic product in any-

one's book). Part of the purpose of the exercise must be to inform our understanding of the complexity of the issues that confront the Government. Every measure it takes is a compromise, a tradeoff between competing benefits. These various indicators will help it to show that its policies are maximising the common good. Nonetheless, though they recognise that quality of life is something distinct from standard of living, every one of them (with the possible exception of the index of skylarks) seems still to estimate our well being in material or physical terms. Surely there are

other factors. The secret of happiness is not just - or, some would say, not even - being comfortable but being content; yet the biss of our consumer society runs strongly the other way. The more we possess, the more we want. Our cups may be running over, but the water we're drinking is salty. So much that is reckoned to

enhance our lives seems in fact only to burden them more. Take, for example, technological advance. Just as new roads serve only to generate more traffic, so the effect of built-in obsolescence and the promise of constant innovation is only to our advertising industry, using every available surface and airwave, does its world-beating best to encourage.

obvious way to gauge the nation's contentment; but that does not mean that it is not a crucial consideration which should influence public policy. The same is true of good relationships. Does our society cultivate them or obstruct them? Of late, the triumph of middleclass values seems to have made privacy and independence a national obsession. More and more people are choosing to live on their own.

There is, of course, no

FAITH REASON

HUW SPANNER

Even those who have offered alternatives to John Prescott's quality-of-life barometer have confined themselves

to material issues. But what lies outside the crumple-zone?

Marriage is only for the traditionalists, and all our relationships are provisional.

Our public spaces are carved apart by increasingly busy roads, on which people drive alone, isolated from each other by their crumple zones and climate-control systems and hi-fi SurroundSound. Meanwhile, the imminent explosion of digital television is set to make the common currency of popular culture increasingly rare. One day, all of us will be living in niches.

A third sine qua non of the good life is a sense of achievement. The problem with Mr Prescott's index of employment is that it continues to rate paid work above unpaid, and

THE ANNOUNCEMENT by breed dissatisfaction. Which that which is worthwhile and John Prescott on Monday of our advertising industry, using satisfying and that which is satisfying and that which is not. But we should not pretend that it is a greater social good to be employed making armaments for export than to be "unemployed" making a home. Of course, a job is a job is a job if you're desperate, but work that saves or enhances a life is better by far than work that blights one, or ends it. Is it possible, one wonders, to measure the feeling of a day well

spent?

Potentially the biggest fly in the ointment of affluence is a bad conscience. Now that the trickledown theory has been tested and discredited, it is difficult to enjoy a rising standard of living without also suffering a surge of guilt. Anyone who doesn't bury their head in the Daily Mail must be aware that the poor are poor in part because the fairly well-off are fairly well-off. Meanwhile, the aid agencies and environmental pressure groups beg us to sumption of our, or the earth's. resources. Once, perhaps, our hearts would have swelled with pride to see the Ministry of Defence test-firing its first cruise missile; today, we are more likely to get that million-dollar feeling when the Treasury cancels Nicaragua's debt.

Of course, the problem with any putative index of the national conscience would be how to read it. After all, the people who are most aware of their own shortcomings are usually not the inveterate sinners but the saints. Perhaps the Government could concentrate in its first term on maximising our feelings of guilt by making us aware of our responsibilities, and could then win a second term with a promise to relieve our consciences with some real reform. "New Labour, New Leaf" might be the slogan.

But then, of course, believers would want to add that in the final analysis (or the Last Judgement, as it is technically known) the quality of our lives is not measured by us, or by our government, but by God. And that is a rather sobering thought

Huw Spanner is publisher of fails to distinguish between "Third Way magazine

Post Gazette announcements to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give a daytime telephone number.

Save the suburban sofa

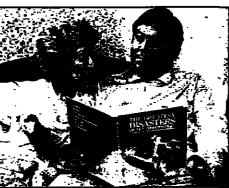
o, the sofa is to become an endangered species on British television. Earlier this week Peter Salmon, the controller of BBC1, announced that open season had been declared on the living-room-suite style of cosy domestic comedy. Such programmes were to be ushered from the screen and not particularly gently either, if we are to judge from the relish with which he boasted that he was "the net-curtain comedy killer, the man who took out a contract on suburban sofas and knitted pullovers". One can only hope that his hired assassins have good powers of discrimination and think carefully before they pull the trigger, because one of the best new comedy series for many seasons would have been unthinkable without this upholstered villain, this scapegoat with washable covers.

It's true that the sofa in question was faintly battered and almost certainly harboured atrocities in its deeper crevices. Along with that unidentifiable scurf which even the best-kept sofas secrete, you would have found Crunchie wrappers, old mascara bottles, a disposable cigarette lighter, and, more than likely, a baker's tariff, since one of the sofa's occupants had spent most of the first episode attempting to memorise the prices for various cakes and slices. Not Hyacinth Bouquet's sofa then, every cleft of which would have been vacuumed to a state of pristine inspectability.

This sofa, ash-smudged and dandruffed with biscuit crumbs, was virtually a non-speaking cast member in The Royle Family, Caroline Aherne's brilliant evocation of Northern family life - a series which limited itself to living room and kitchen with a kind of agoraphobic daring.

It is almost certainly exempt from the general cull - and not just because it inhabits the wildlife reserve of BBC2, where it is beyond the range of Mr Salmon's guns. More importantly still, the programme's sofa is a working-class piece of furniture and it is social attitudes rather more than subject matter that Salmon has in his sights. He didn't use the words middle-class - or was not reported to have done in any of the newspaper articles which covered the announcement but that abused shorthand for the Radio Times as a reminder - along stolid and undemanding lay behind much of what he said. There are collector's plates he will almost demographic hazards in such an attitude, as several old-school com- able soft covers - precisely the kind edy writers pointed out. After all, not of sensibility he has identified. a few of the viewers for BBC1's programmes sit on a sofa as they not be as militant in defence of its watch and some of them even wear knitted pullovers to compound the sin. If Mr Salmon doubts the clout









Main picture: "The Royle Family"; then from left: "Terry and June', 'Next of Kin' and 'Keeping up Appearances'

can flick through any copy of the with the car ads and Franklin Mint certainly find an advert for remov-

Of course this audience may pleasures as the actual writers who make a living out of them. Millions of people watched Next of Kin,

was one of the early trophies in Mr Salmon's display cabinet, but it is difficult to believe that even one of them will march on Television Centre to demand its reinstatement. What it was was not very funny inasmuch as Mr Salmon was using his phrase as a shorthand for a yielding, down-stuffed kind

object to his general principle,

which might be more accurately

of this group of licence-payers, he a dire Penelope Keith vehicle which paraphrased as "fewer unfunny nonetheless managed to give the

The problem, as the example of quality in the sitcom simply can't be defined by ruling out a certain type of subject matter. Ban clerical comedy because you were frightened by Derek Nimmo as a young media student and you've effecof programme - and it is difficult to tively killed The Vicar of Dibley before birth, a self-consciously old-fashioned kind of sitcom which

dog collar a new kind of edge

And being more precise doesn't The Royle Family shows, is that really help. Mr Salmon said he also begins with a running joke wanted to get away from "whimsy" but how else would you describe the surreal inconsequentiality of Futher Ted the series which for my money, a short sequence in which the enincluded the funniest sitcom joke ever broadcast on television - the one in which Father Ted attempted to instruct Dougal in the mysteries of perspective. The scene was a tiny,

rain-hammered caravan, with Ted and Dougal cramped on either side of a tiny table.

"No, Dougal", said Ted waving a small plastic cow at his mentally-challenged colleague, "this cow is small, that cow is fur away."

There was then a perfectly timed pause before Dougal shook his head regretfully. "Sorry Ted, would you run through that one more time?" Does that sublime moment

demonstrate "bite", exactly? I suppose you might take it as mordant if you were an Irish clergyman, but even then you would be pushing it.

The danger of ruling out whole areas of subject matter - and by implication the audiences who live like that - is that you cramp the potential of writers you haven't even met yet. A sanctioned prejudice against the domestic and the middle-class is equally dangerous - be-cause it fails to see how much excellent comedy has emerged from those notionally unpromising locations. What are the young. urban professionals of Friends if they are not middle class?

More crucially, one of the finest sitcoms in recent years, a massive international success, is based on the home life of an ordinary family of middle-class Americans from the

very middle of middle America. This situation is hardly novel. It has been exploited countless times before, from I Love Lucy to The Cosby Show, and yet The Simpsons has every quality Peter Salmon is looking for in seeking to refresh the image of BBC1 comedy. (It needs to be remembered that this is an image problem; the recent governors' strictures and much press coverage relate less to current reality than to past experience - Terry and June, cited in many papers as an example of shows that will suffer, hasn't been on screen for years).

The Simpsons is witty, inventive and sharp. It even came close to knocking Father Ted off the number one spot in my own personal pantheon: Homer is at home recovering from an injury and is visited by

solicitous colleagues.
"They had a hell of a time replacing you," he is reassured, at which point we cut to an image of his empty work station in the nuclear power plant, where the all important lever is being held in place

by a brick on a string Every episode of The Simpsons that should make Peter Salmon think harder about the terms in which he expresses his ambitions tire family races to sit down together to watch the television. What they head for is a suburban sofa, and it is one that television comedy would be considerably poorer without,

ARTS DIARY

DAVID LISTER

IT MAY come as no surprise to his female admirers to learn that Des Lynam, the Mutch Of The Day presenter, has poetry in his soul. But should it have stayed in his soul? I leave you to judge. On a CD, released today, of Des reading poetry by Kipling, Betjeman and others, is one of his own - a protest poem to book. Written in 1982 at the time of the Falldands War, his poem is entitled Silly Isles: Politicians without their guile Army Hawks without a smile Did send our men 8.000 mile To claim some rucks. The final verse: But when those exoccts one

When men are dead and others Those sad grey rocks won't half

have cost a lot. One bookmaker has made Lynam a 66-1 outsider to beat the Spice Girls and top the charts at Christmas. Perhaps they'll both lose to Alan Banser reading Wuthering Heights.

BENEATH THOSE anarchic Monty Python people lurk sensitive souls. Python Terry Jones has written to the London listings magazine Time Out complaining about their review which appeared over a year ago (!) of the movie version he directed of Wind In The Willows. "What really upset me about your review," his letter goes on, "was not your reviewer's opinion but the fact that he intimated the film did not work for children, based on the reaction of his own child..." May I make two points to Terry Jones? 1. It is an accepted rule of film criticism that all generalisations about children's tastes should be based on the grunted response of the child occupying the seat next to you. And, 2, If you're going to argue with a review then best to do it within 12 months.

GRAHAM MARCHANT and Graham Devlin, both senior officials at the Arts Council, are to leave to go into consultancy. Will they take advantage of the new counselling and therapy service now being offered by the Council, on taxpayers money, to all its staff? Or is Arts Council sickness now beyond counselling? Staff are urged to consult Core Care, a professional counselling

organisation. They are told: "Please do not consume alcohol or drugs before you attend your session as this can interfere with the counselling process." Come, come. These people are in the process of administering the annual round of grants. As every arts company will testify. they always take to drink and drugs at the Council before applying their minds to that.

TateGallery A Victorian lady's beauty routine. First, have yourself painted by Sargent. That's it. John Singer Sargent. An exhibition of portraits, landscapes, watercolours and drawings. Tate Gallery, Millbank 15 October 1998-17 January 1999. Nearest underground: Pimlico. Minds open from 10 am. Information 0171-887 8008, www.tate.org.uk Adults: £6 Concessions: £4. Free to Friends. Advance tickets £7.60/£5 from First Call 0171-420 0055.

It's fun, and it's even legal (almost)

mid-Nineties: a gun report, almost certainly a blank, was heard balfway through his appearance in a packed, small, west London nightclub on Tuesday night. The person deemed responsible was quickly bundled out while Snoop Dogg was hustled off stage by his minders. What you won't hear was that this idiocy took place at one of the most engaging gigs of the year.

Gangsta rap always seemed destined to repeat itself first as tragedy then as farce. When Calvin Broadus AKA Snoop Doggy Dogg first joined ex- It was an appeal consolidated NWA member Dr Dre to pro- by Snoop Dogg's 1993 follow-up,

INEVITABLY ONE sad fact will duce The Chronic six years ago, survive Snoop Dogg's first the result was a slick, underappearance in the UK since the stated fusion of P-funk and streetwise parables of life in black America's rougher neigh bourhoods. The fierce, politicised rap of Dr Dre's earlier group and Public Enemy appeared to have given way to a dissipated celebration of an amoral "gangsta" existence, obsessed with status, violence and the degradation of women. However, as long as you didn't pay too much attention to what guns were being pulled on which "bitches" and "ho's", gangsta rap, as it was tagged was the sleaziest fun you could have without breaking the law.

POP SNOOP DOGG SUBTERANIA LONDON Doggystyle, one of the biggest-

lling rap albums. The trouble was that Snoop Dogg and other leading exponents never exhibited much by way of irony, no matter what their apologists claimed. "Keepin' it real", the obsessive maxim of gangsta rap, led ultimately to the fatal shootings of Tupac Shakur and the Notorious BIG. Even Snoop Dogg himself was up on a murder charge in 1995, which he escaped. So, when someone let off the blank, it had a

pathetic logic. Snoop initially never looked back. Much has took to the stage provocatively in a balaciava and, between voluble reminders that this was "a gangsta party", exhorted us to wave our guns in the air. This being Ladbroke Grove, not Compton, a raised ciggy had to do. You had to smile and, to his credit, Snoop did.

Hearteningly, there was little acknowledgement from a relaxed Dogg that the Wu-Tang Clan and its various offshoots have long since usurped his rap throne. Sporting elegant pigtails and supported by a couple of good-natured fellow rappers, a virtuoso DJ and a phalanx of "security", the Dogg was straight out of his trap with "Murder Was The Case". He

been made of the absence of production genius Dr Dre on Dogg's last album, Da Game Is To Be Sold. Not To Be Told, butlive tracks like "Gin & Juice II" and "Still A G-Thang" show the rapper's sinewy delivery to great effect. These recalled what the man himself dubbed "Classic Dogg", the era which he seemed more than happy to evoke. He was a mesmerising performer, rearing himself up to his full height to conduct the audience through his vintage Gfunk, "Who Am I (What's My Name?)" and "Snoops Upside Your Head". Every dog has its day, and this one got to have it all over again. MIKE HIGGINS

THE WEEK IN RADIO

ROBERT HANKS

IT WOULD be easy to scoff at the idea of putting modern art on radio - "Best place for it," some would and even downright say. And it is true that art today demands to be explained and not simply looked at, so that radio suits it quite well. But that doesn't account for the this arresting. success of Private View (Monday-Friday, Radio 3).

A couple of years ago, Nicholas Ward Jackson's series of encounters with artists won a well-earned Sony Award for an episode in which he almost didn't encounter Douglas Gordon (who went on to win the Turner Prize the same year). That was something of a one-off. Gordon was deliberately and

provocatively elusive, playing Ward Jackson along with a series of enigmatic threatening answerphone messages, before allowing himself to be tracked down. It was the atmosphere that the programme took from the messages which made

But the real strength of Private View is Ward Jackson's own attention to what he is being told, his seriousness and evident enthusiasm, and the trust and seriousness he inspires in his interlocutors. This week's pack of five started with a remarkable meeting with Gilbert and George at their studio in Spitalfields. The idea was that he would

talk to them about their New Testamental Pictures, about to be exhibited in Italy - photographic montages of G&G at play among the blood, urine, sperm and other bodily excreta. But they were soon pressing on him new photographs: of themselves as zombies, a series of images of chewing-gum on the street (a nuisance, "but we saw a very touching beauty in the fact that each one was chewed by some darling person once"), and landscapes in dried-out piss

On the Today programme, where the rare discussions of art either start or quickly descend to the level of "Yeah, but you

mantelpiece, would you?", this would have been a cue for suppressed giggles. For me, G&G have always sat uncomfortably close to kitsch; and their seifspoofing tendency, the suppressed giggle that seems to lie behind their public pronouncements. adds to my uneasiness. With Ward Jackson, they began to sound like considered and considerable artists their insistence on the primacy of emotion, their persistent engagement with materials that need to be handled with rubber gloves and a bottle of disinfectant a deflance of the limits placed on us by flesh. It was a deeply serious programme:

wouldn't want one on your

also, though I know I haven't made it sound that way, bloody funny.

There was more defiance of the flesh in Aids and Mc (Radio 4, Wednesday), Nigel Wrench's feature about living with the disease over the last three years. Wrench's own unscripted descriptions of landmarks the day he was diagnosed HIV-positive and had to cancel an interview with Edward Heath; the bout of pneumonia that marked the onset of Aids proper - were admirably businesslike, uncomplaining, quietly optimistic: by far the most affecting account of the disease I've heard, and an excellent piece of programme-making.

IT MAY CYMBE AS NO SUPPLIES his festion advices to learn that I be a festion, the Match of ra pire with 1 part applied for book.

The 1 part blacks made processed from the part of t spacked in 1915, with a property of the second in 1915, with a second in 1915, with a second in 1915, which is the second in 1915, w to incide. (30 3 (4) tolered packet, of Pres Pending Portry Kipling, B. Jewell and other time of the Palkings but is burnell as collective said teles Pedefections without first and Army Harris without a see Old send our men 8,000 mle To claum mane rocks The final verse.

the man the concession Manual strate case upong and one Uprate, were tracked where multi-The backmaker has made Amany o for I mutader to beg he Space Ciris and top the hards at Christmas Pedage hey If buth here to Alm Hanwading Wathering Height

GENEATH THOSE anarchic Mortin Pattion people but autodive source Python Ten lunes har written to the condon in tuny's magazine To hat complaining about the which appeared wen our ago " of the movie rese to divertical of Wind in The Ventury What really upsets daniel years review," his letter han the mar and your reserver - equation but the fe had be retimined the film in pot mark for children basely he is action of his own chill. day in the law two points to be

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15 of 35



THE FILM OUT OF SIGHT

THE PLAY BETRAYAL

THE ALBUM ICE CUBE

WEEK IN REVIEW

By FIONA STURGES

ON VIEW

Steven Soderbergh's

Out Of Sight is out on

Betroyof is in rep at

the Lyttelton, National

Theatre, London SE1.

For booldnes and en-

quirles cati 0171-452

general rélease,

minutes.

3000.

certificate 15, 123

EXCELLENT ⊸ GOOD

Steven Soderbergh's thriller,

adapted from Eimore

Leonard's novel, stars

George Clooney as robber

Lopez as his love interest.

Trevor Nunn's revival of

of adultery stars imogen

Stubbs as a wife looking

affair with her husband's

This exhibition of recent

sees the 86-year-old

After a five-year break,

boy of rap, ice Cube,

double album.

THE TV PROGRAMME THE WORLD OF VANITY FAIR

makes a raucous return

with War and Peace, the

first instalment of a new

This week's Omnibus

scenes of the BBC's

the legacy of William

Makepeace Thackeray

Special went behind the

dramatisation of Vanity

Fair in an examination of

the NWA veteran and bad

creepy-crawiies.

work by Louise Bourgeois

dramatically wrestling with

childhood demons through

a series of larger-than-life

back over a seven-year

best friend,

THE EXHIBITION LOUISE BOURGEOIS

Harold Pinter's 1978 tale

Jack Foley and Jennifer





DEADLY

OUR VIEW

Under Soderbergh's direction,

Out Of Sight exquisitely mixes

suspense, comedy and

romance and never

underestimates the

unmitigated success.

intelligence, An

audience's

strength.

OVERVIEW CRITICAL VIEW

One of the slinkiest introduction scenes in cinema history. [Soderbergh] has persuaded both Clooney and Lopez to think beyond their fabulous looks. He prefers to show his characters thinking and talking, and trusts the audience to make up their own minds as to whether they're on the level," inflied Anthony Quinn. "The finest Leonard"

The production flows beautifully, the

is in the psychological dynamics." "An

enthralling production of an indisputably

"It's not only that "Bourgeois's sculptures

are free of flesh-creeping and tear-jerking

pre-programmed argument. It's not only their breadth and tralance of sympathies. It's that they're made with love, commended from Lubbode Stee could be

The kind of rap album that makes most of

his peers sound more than a little sad and

picture has rarely been more acute. Behind

with few illusions about the true nature of

power," noted Andy Gill, "Ice Cube provides

the visceral surface of these great street

dramas les a sharp political intelligence

just another batty old biddy with her

small-minded. His grasp of the larger

"Clothed self-congratulation was the

theme... deverly dressed up as social analysis of whether such a world edite.

nature, apart from the fact that some

today. One didn't learn much about human

people will take just about any opportunity

to spout nonsense on the telly," remarked

Serena Mackesy, "The programme seemed

and that they don't feel like specimens in a

rewound scenes succeeding each other in a

lateral drift across the stage. The impression of moving back and fortif in time is power.

fully conveyed," reported Paul Taylor, adding.

Where this Betrayal falls short of existilence

adaptation to date and a rare example of a Hollywood film that's adult, ambitious, and terrific entertainment," cried Time Out. "The best movie Lopez has ever made, the best movie Clooney has ever made, the best movie Soderbergh has ever made. Out Of Sight is so good, it gives you goosebumps," gushed The Guardian.

great play," complimented The Daily Telegraph. The acting is distinctly mixed. Only the skillid Douglas Hodge has the right weight and timbre as the writing love rat. decided the Daily Mail. The spectacular atmospherics of Nunn's production scarcely

Interminable reminiscences, but for one

irreducible fact: she is one of the fiercest

and strongest artists alive." thought The

Guardian. "Her readiness to confront the

unavoidability of death makes Bourgeois

seem close to today's young artists. Her

a powerful claim for restoring his status.

inevitably, it is marred by some trademark

wonder how he is going to tackle the second set," stated The Times. "An ego-

fest. The lyrical veteran looks set to be

kicking it in Jurassic Fark with the other

rhyme a saurs," admonished Time Out.

part of a determined effort to sell Becky

Sharne as a woman of our time. So who

should appear with a puff of smoke and a

whilf of sulphur but Max Clifford?" opined

The Guardian. "Clifford thought that "with

the right people behind her, [Sharp] could

become a successful TV presenter". Are we

all opportunists now?" backed The Times.

misogyny but Cube's conviction makes you

influence has surely been greater than

anyone suspects," felt The Times.

Nunn's production underlines the reverse chronology of Pinter's play, but intimacy is lost in the Lyttelton's hollow space and Stubbs is no match for Douglas conceal a failure to evoke the play's veiled Hodge and Anthony menace," opined the Evening Standard.

Calf. Undercharged. These glant aracholds show that age has not mellowed Bourgeois nor dimmed her talents. Her self-analysis has provided us with a show of touching melancholy and fleroe

Five years on film sets has

informed discourse, though

possibilities for Vanity Fair's

critique, The Whiri Of Vanity

lead Becky Sharpe than a social

remnants of his

past are stiff sadiy

More of list of career

viciously sedst

in evidence.

Fair provided

the world of

Public Relations.

great insight into

allowed ice Cube's trademark

diatribe to develop into a more

Louise Bouroeois: Recent Work is at the Serpentine Galiery, London W2 until 30 January. For enquiries call 0171-298 1515.

ice Qube's War & Peace Vol 1 (The War Disc) is out on

Monday on Priority records., Volume 2 will be released in

The next Omnibus special is called Starring Animals and looks at the role of animais in film, 20 December BBC1. A new series of Omnibus starts in the new year.

EXIT POLL

THE EXHIBITION LOUISE BOURGEOIS SERPENTINE GALLERY, LONDON

INCHLEY 20, student Nottingham
"I loved the
spider, it's
fantastic, crazy

secutiful at the same time. This is indicative of the rest of the exhibition, but more so with that piece because it had nice shadows on the wall as you walk

in. The other stuff is kind of melancholic, it looks contemporary, but then you re hat she was born in 1911."

FERM 60, sculptor,

zing cres amazing inversion of thinking. Not so much about it being female but so much about it being feme to see it as part of the spinni

BAXTER ondon very much, I like the fact that her

centres around her neuroses. If w like. I find that very interesting. And it's in quite a mique way, which is very important. It's a shame one can't see a huge retrospective, Tate style, but they are often given to other artists. But for smaller, lesser known artists a lesses which like. I find that very interesti

known artists a larger exhibition would be more fulfilling." SCHLANDER 24, traveller, but not all, of it.



liked the spider, lo oking at it from all angles. It was the same with all

Troy: this time it's personal

Andrew Rissik was one of the rising stars of British drama. Until he was struck down with ME. Now he's back with the epic radio play, Troy. By Robert Hanks

lopped and lopped, and Radio 4, which used to happily accommodate 90-minute, or even two-hour, dramas, will hardly allow anything longer than three-quarters of an hour these days. So it is a refreshing surprise to come across something as ambitious in scale as Troy: a trilogy of plays, broadcast and several radio plays, one of tonight and tomorrow, that take us from the birth of Paris, through the siege and de- Alone, had won a Giles Coopstruction of Troy and on to the er Award. Altogether, you Agamemnon, and Helen, the young man. But in early 1988,

achieving a sort of peace. a name that may ring a bell with longstanding readers of The Independent. When the paper to a battery of tests, and diagbegan in 1986, Rissik was one of the arts critics. In 1988, however, he stopped writing for the paper and, in a surprising way. his subsequent history resonates through Troy.

RADIO DRAMA has been in Rissik had had a brilliant CFS), he has had to cope with Early on, when he thought, view any snore if Troy has a shrinkage for a few years now: academic career - double first two sets of problems. One is the that the illness was bound to theme, it is accepting what life Christ Church, beginnings of a doctoral thesis - but turned his back on that in the early Eighties to concentrate on writing. He paid the bills through theatre criticism, but in his spare time he was establishing himself as a dramatist - one television play was broadcast, which, Anthony, part of a trilogy collectively entitled A Man aftermath - the murder of would have said, a promising cause of so much suffering, he found himself unable to shake off a bout of flu. A doctor The author is Andrew Rissik advised him to rest: but when

things didn't improve, he was admitted to hospital, subjected

nosed as suffering from ME. And that, more or less, was that. For the last 10 years, Rissik (or to use the newer acronym.

that doesn't work... you spend a lot of time lying in the dark on your own, feeling so physically ill, so poisoned, you can't enjoy anything, even watching TV" The other is external: the lin-

You are in a body that doesn't work. so ill and poisoned you can't enjoy anything at all

gering suspicion that it is not a real disease, or that it is psychological in origin – a kind of depression. For Rissik, it is "a very physical illness": symptoms have included pain in his limbs, vicious attacks of nausea. has been too ill to hold down a blinding headaches every job. Like all sufferers from ME night, insomnia, and a permanent sense of exhaustion.

classic serials have been at Oxford, Senior Scholar at purely internal suffering: "You wear off and the solution was throws at you, the grace that is are simply enmeshed in a body to keep working, he wrote a left when ambition and posworld-weary Sixties spy movies. A couple of television scripts were commissioned, written and paid for, but never

saw the light of day. Troy sprang from his earlier Radio 4 play, King Priom - a monologue performed by Paul Scofield. The idea was to make Troy has a large starry cast: and self-consciously Scofield returns as the play's at times awkward. presiding deity, Hermes; and the supporting cast includes Toby Stephens as Achilles. Emma Fielding, Michael Maloney Lindsay Duncan, Michael

Sheen, David Harewood... But Troy also represents a change in his attitude: looking back at the earlier King Priom, Rissik sees it as having "a light and a slightly false optimism that is simply not part of one's 9.30pm.

Radio 4 series, The Psychedelic sessions and everything else Spy, a dry, stylish pastiche of you thought made life enjoyable have been stripped away -Helen, generally a marginal figure in most versions of the Trojan myth, here becomes the bearer of the story's moral.

I don't want to kid you that Troy is perfect. The production has flaws, notably an intrusive, cod-mystical score; and this part of a trilogy; but Rissik Rissik's dialogue, treading the ended with something grander. line between obviously modern and self-consciously archaic is Nevertheless, it is a boldly

conceived, always searching annormach to the story and its infinite meanings; and once again, you would say this looks like a promising young man.

King Priam and His Sons Tonight, 8.30pm R3; The Death of Achilles', tomorrow 7.30pm; Helen at Ephesus', tomorrow



Paul Scofield: featured in Rissik's plays, both past and present

Post-modernism for perverts

Aaah, the wit of les anglais

ON THURSDAY night, history was made at the Comédie Française, the bastion of French theatre. Tom Stoppard became the first non-Francophone foreign playwright to have his work performed at the Parisian theatre whilst still alive. *Arcadia*, in its French translation, will run

until February. Although for many years French audiences have enjoyed productions of foreign playwrights' works - Shakespeare, Ibsen, Brecht - they have been deprived of seeing plays of contemporary foreign writers. A change in the theatre statutes in 1995 gave the theatre the possibility to broaden its repertoire.

The man behind Arcadia's admission to the higher echelons of French theatre is Mr Jean-Pierre Miquel, the theatre's Administrateur (Director). Appointed by the French government in 1993, he proposed Stoppard's play to the

board in 1996. So why choose Stoppard for the French public? Mr Miquel is not at a loss for words: "Tom Stoppard is without doubt one of the great authors of today. The diversity of his work, his mastery of dramatic techTHEATRE ARCADIA

COMEDIE FRANÇAISE **PARIS**

niques, the variety and originality of his subjects, and his sense of humour allow him to join the ranks of the most inventive and sparkling writers of contemporary theatre."

Stoppard's play, set in Sidley Park, a Derbyshire manor house, switches between 1809 and the present day. The 19thcentury lady of the manor not only has her gardener's outrageous landscaping plans to contend with, but also a series of interwoven love affairs taking place in the house.

And so 190 years later, two academics, Bernard Nightingale and Anna Jarvis, are trying to unravel the mysteries of the previous century's events. He is trying to find the answer to Lord Byron's unexplained disappearance, convinced the answer lies in Sidley Park. She is determined to study the identity of the hermit who

lodged in the grounds. In switching between the two eras, Stoppard's play explores the relationship



'Arcadia': succeeds despite slapstick humour

present, whilst opening up inappropriate to the subtler interesting discussions be- nuances of the play. tween the characters about losophy, physics, poetry and mathematics.

How well did it cross the Channel? It translated very script's linguistic witticisms seemed to be overshadowed by the visual slapstick humour incorporated by the

play's director. Phillipe Adrien. Furthermore, some of the interpretation of their charac-ters which at times were CLAIRE SOARES between the past and the ters, which at times were

The audience's reaction at Classicism, Romanticism, phi- the end was mixed. Some spectators emerged in a daze, complaining of an over-complicated plot, with tenuous links between the two time frames. well, though much of the Others were more enthusiastic, believing the play to have. been entertaining and clever.

Perhaps the words of one of the characters, Valentin, are most appropriate: "Who wrote what and when and why ... is French actors tended to offer irrelevant ... what counts is ... up a rather melodramatic the knowledge." Or in this

"RRRRRRR," RUMBLED & **NEW YORK**

fellow at the back of the second floor of the East Village bar, Sunday-night home to the Red Vixen burlesque. He was responding to fleshy blande Dirty Martini, now wriggling in a black corset. Behind a curtain, in silhouette, Martini slowly took off her stockings, toes pointing up at the celling. After the second act, another man in thick, black-framed, nerd-cool glasses handed a buck to the second dancer, an act that was retro and "erotic" and seemed loaded down with mournfulness. The dude didn't slide the tip greasily into her black year-olds into its environs, it

thong, however, but offered it

Square and into the hinter-

lands of Queens - a quarantine

of warehouse districts. (In a

sideline, the severe zoning laws

were outsmarted a few weeks

rather shyly, so as not to invade her performative space. Artful mudity is not limited to This so-called avant-garde the new burlesque outfits. Two burlesque happens weekly. It's a slice of Manhattan's new enthusiasm for naughty vandeville. This taste for camp poru coincides with the Mayor of New York's quality-of-life war on the adult entertainment jour - Jack Tilton. industry. Topless dancers are "They really wanted penenow chastely brassièred, and sex shops zoned out of Times

ALISSA QUART ago by a legal claim that after

one strip joint had allowed 14-

was no longer an "adult"

DIARY

weeks ago, 500 art kids, sundry perverts and a New York Times critic lined up for three hours of non-penetrative sex between porn actresses and a salesman in the SoHo shock gallery du

tration, but it was just soft porn," testifies Jack Tilton's codirector. "The actresses were touching audience members and putting sand piles on their genitals. But last year, there was penetration," he said. He Broadway revival Coboret con-troyed by cinema."

to close it down if he could. This month, critic Geoffrey O'Brien's The Times Square Story was published - a book wallowing in the lost 42nd Street of yore, full of B-movie stills, fleabag hotels and grind-

At Red Vixen and Grindhouse and the Blue Angel, audience members discuss whether scrotums or breasts are more beautiful, and then decide that breasts are social constructs. There are feathers, spangles, throaty Fifties chanteuses, abjection, Serge Gainsbourg and accordion music. Other acts at Red Vixen included the Little Girl From

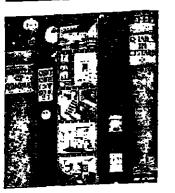
Chernobyl, topiess and painted with glow-in-the-dark did the cute-porn moviegoer "plutonium" make-up; and Mangina Man, his genitals arrayed behind plastic labia with woven fuzz. He told the audience that the runnerup name for Mangina (man plus vagina) was Lotum (labia plus scrotum). He welcomed anyone in the audience who Sunday, Red Vixen's sweaty wanted to touch it.

The Mangina is not quite the twee demi-porn of Broadway

believes that if the Mayor tinues to pack people in to see caught wind of it he "would try girls in satin skivvies and Jennifer Jason Leigh's familiar performance (is she recycling Dorothy Parker, or a strung-out narc for this Weimar succubus?) Until its recent move to the revamped Studio 54. Cabaret was housed in the Disneyfied Times Square that O'Brien's book wishes to forget, a stone's throw from the sites where the dank sleaze palaces

> once stood. A few years ago in Manhattan, porn kitsch took over. Girls dressed in glittery sweaters. worn in honour of former porn star Traci Lords, waited in artplexes for Mark Wahlberg's member to emerge, soon after Larry Flynt was canonised as a constitutional scholar. What care for the death of New York's dark, Modernist theatres, where a low public culture of joyless pleasure had been carried on, without irong for decades?

The live burlesque is sadder and more self-aware. On raconteur/novelist emcee Jonathan Ames said of it: "Burlesque came from vaudeville and recent films. The hit before vaudeville was des-



BOOKS O

Bowie and Sinatra, Picasso and Matisse, Napoleon and Hitler, the Marquis de Sade and ... Kenneth Starr? Independent writers and guest contributors choose the books that have given them most pleasure in 1998



Geoff Dyer Novelist and critic

Before reading Sir Vidia's Shadow (Hamish Hamilton), I was not a fan of Paul Theroux, but this instantly notorious memoir of his friendship with VS Naipaul was a wonderfully belated introduction to his talent. Theroux's portrait of a writer - and, on the basis of this testimony, a thoroughly loathsome human being - is as vivid as any ever written. This loathsomeness has come to contaminate Naipaul's own writing, but perhaps the highest com-pliment we can pay Theroux is that the Vidia of these pages is as powerfully realised as a character in the latter's best fiction. I've long been an admirer of Lorrie Moore; her Birds of America (Faber) is an exquisite collection of stories by a writer at the peak of her form.

Rick Stein Restaurateur

Ever since I read Beautiful Swimmers: watermen, crabs and Chesapeake Bay by William W Warner (Little, Brown, US), I've had a thirst for books which make the business of fishing more than just a passing interest. Sebastian Junger's The Perfect Storm (Fourth Estate) also did that, but none more successfully than Cod: a biography of the fish that changed the world by Mark Kırlansky (Cape). The incredible importance of cod in the economic development of North America, coupled with the startling fact that the Basques were already fishing the Grand Banks when Columbus "discovered America", makes for intriguing reading. Covering the general demise of fish stocks, the book is disturbing and moving. I read a review of Namedropper by Emma Forrest (Arrow) while on the way to London for a fish meeting. I set myself the task of reading it from the point of view of how someone of 51 could be interested in the angst of an 18-year-old character and a 21-year-old author, but the book is a complete delight. It shows to me that growing older doesn't mean a thing.

Carole Angier Biographer and critic

This has been such a good year for biography that I cannot name all my choices. At the top, though, comes Hilary Spurling's The Unknown Matisse (Chatto), a book which will defy the dictum that books cannot change the world. Together with its future second volume, it will change 20thcentury art history, and therefore 20th-century history. Two other splendid combinations of biographer and subject are Richard Holmes's second volume, Coleridge: darker visions (HarperCollins), well worth the wait, and Michael Ignatieff's Isoiah Berlin (Chatto). And for sheer beauty, as well as melancholy, W G Sebald's meditation on art, history and isolation, The Rings of Saturn (Harvill).



Bill Clinton

Charlotte Cory Novelist

1998 was the year I went interactive, so my first "book" choice is Ceremony of Innocence, a CD-rom extravaganza based on the mysterious correspondence of Griffin and Sabine by Nick Bantock. The funniest book by far this year has been Clinton: The Starr Report (Orion). Those of us who trade in fictions could never compete.

Nor will pizza ever taste the same again! Far more intriguing sex and scandal is to be found in Graham Rawle's Diary of an Amateur Photographer (Picador), a whacky collage of a book about a nerdish glamour photographer. A beautiful book of photographs, Irish Houses and Gardens by Sean O'Reilly (Aurum Press), taken from the archives of Country Life, had me crossing the Irish Sea a few weeks ago. It's a mesmerising record of faded grandeur. Finally, I have re-read all 91 of Somerset Maugham's stories and concluded that he was a complete genius. His stories about colonial life in the Far East are especially haunting.

Emma Hagestadt

A good year for transatlantic stalwarts. Annie Proulx's Christmas stocking-sized novella Brokeback Mountain (Fourth Estate) is a nearperfect hymn to life on the open range. Carol Shields's Larry's Party (Fourth Estate) winningly explored the interior of life of the menopausal male.



The Last Resort (Chatto), Alison Lurie's first novel for 10 years, is a wonderfully waspish account of how a couple of ageing academics abandon their fir-green dressing gowns for a winter break in Florida's Key West. British novelists can take a spikier view of relationships. Particularly entertaining paperback reads included Liz Jensen's Ark Baby (Bloomsbury) - ape man meets Northumbrian slappers - and Lesley Glaister's puckish novel of fathers and daughters (and other lovers), Easy Peasy (Bloomsbury). As respite from wanabee Bridgets, singletons got real in Mavis Cheek's Getting Back Brahms (Faber) and Stella Duffy's Singling Out the Couples (Sceptre).

Ruth Padel

Poetry's rollercoaster year (see Birthday Letters and the Lau-reate's death) has continued to the blackly bitter end. OUP brought out one of the year's best new collections in the very week its management betrayed Oxford's own history, demonstrating academe's increasing isolation from creativity, and extinguished one of the best poetry lists in the country. In My Life Asleep, Jo Shapcott, one of the jewels in OUP's disgraced crown, mixes meditations on identity with mischievous lyrics in weird voices, and love poems based on Rilke's "Roses". Shapcott's "roses", an erotic bunch of lyrically strong-minded vaginas, talk back to men: I wish they'd have a go at OUP's treacherous Finance Committee. In his wonderful Selected Poems, Michael Longley, a diamond in Cape's poetry crown, gathers 30 years of and death. His unique lyric voice is always alert to the wary life of the past in the present (Homer's Troy in warshattered Belfast), and shy animal life in the meadowsweet of a darkened Northern field.

Roger Clarke

Critic Philip Hensher's Pleasured (Chatto) did just that: a sublimely structured and sophisticated novel set in 1988 Berlin flates the drug culture of the Stars (HarperCollins) makes John Walsh Summer of Love and the imminent demise of Checkpoint Charlie. Ian McEwan with a sense of humour - vikes. there's no stopping this man. I also felt Douglas Coupland's Girlfriend in a Coma (Flamingo) was finally far more the work of a novelist than of a pop-culture critic. It shows a new maturity in the grizzled Gen-Xer. John Waters' Director's Cut (Scalo) proved to be a fabulous treat, a photo-montage from the director of Pink Flamingos, full of visual quirks, gags and chucklesome electronic hysteria.

John Sutherland Professor of English, UCL

There are so many books published in the Nineties that good books get buried under the bad. The mathematics are simple: 2,000 titles (on average) are published every week, with around 50 reviewed in a paper such as The Independent. For me, the three best books of the year are: (1) The Bultimore Case by Daniel J Kevles (Norton). This is not, as may seem, a work of American urban history. David Baltimore was the Nobel Prize-winning biologist caught in a Kafkaesque process in which he was (falsely) accused of the most heinous of modern crimes - sexism. His career was practically ruined. Adrian Johns's The Nature of world of flexibility and risk, the Book (Chicago) is, in my The Corrosion of Character: view, the most lucid and persuasive account of the new kind of knowledge produced by print in its genesis period, the 16th and 17th centuries. A work to rank alongside McLuhan. Alison Winter's Mesmerized: mind and authority in Victorian Britain. Escapism (Johns Hopkins), (Chicago) respectfully exam- and even the exceptionally busy ines mesmerism as science, not should be able to find the few pseudo-science or the bas- minutes necessary to snatch tardised un Geller mances associated with the term. A landmark in the history of science scholarship.

Orlando Figes

Historian A good year for military history. Antony Beevor's Stalingrad (Viking) is well researched and very readable. Richard Overy's Russia's War (Allen Lane) is a more than useful complement. Niall Ferguson's The Pity of War (Allen Lane) is a very clever piece of revisionist scholarship on the First World War, even if it only half persuades. I also much admired Mark



Mazower's Dark Continent (Allen Lane), a series of essays on 20th-century Europe that enlighten and disturb. For thrills, I recommend Robert Harris's Archangel (Hutchinson).

Lisa Appignanesi

Novelist and critic Daniel Menaker's novel The Treatment (Faber) gave me great pleasure. Not only is it a wise, witty and beautifully crafted coming-of-age book, poems about love, nature, war but it features the best and most outrageous shrink in the post-Freudian canon. Marina Warner's No Go the Bogeyman (Chatto) is a rich feast of a volume. No one knows more about the myths, tales and large dollops of art and popular culture which go into the shaping of our imagination. She subtly teases out the uses we make of fear in a salutary study for our terrorstricken and horror-mongering turn of the millenium. Finally, the love and knowledge Malcolm Bowle demonin which Hensher eleverly constrates in Proust Among the this the book for existing and would-be buffs.

Laurie Taylor

Sociologist and broadcaster It is a devastating comment upon the insular nature of contemporary sociology that there have been so few critical analy-



ses of the effect upon our personal and social lives of the new information age and its changing patterns of work. But just when you thought that there was no effective antidote to the unholy up-beat alliance of management theorists and technological determinists. along comes Richard Sennett's magnificent examination of the downside of this brave new world of flexibility and risk, the personal consequences of work in the new capitalism (Norton). Those with a little time left over from their increasingly hectic working lives will find comfort in the gentle insights about human nature which pervade Yi-Fu Tuan's some consolatory advice from Celia Haddon's astute collection of aphorisms, One Hundred

Hilary Mantel Novelist

Ways to Serenity (Hodder).

Question: can publishers feel shame? David Caute had to set up the Totterdown Press to self-publish his provocative, scathing, and gruesomely funny novel Fatima's Scarf. Hovering on a magical prayer mat somewhere between Bradford and Cairo, this spirited narrative of the clash of Islamic and Western values subverts our pieties about the Rushdie affair, and ambushes the unwary reader at every turn. The first paragraph alone has more energy and edge than the whole output of many of our accepted wits. Give it to your friends as a compliment to their intelligence. Another wit. upsetting and anarchic, is Grace Ingoldby, whose Bring Out Your Dead (Peter Owen) I nominate as this year's most underestimated novel. Ingoldby is a stylist and an ironist: a true

Christopher Hope Novelist

Victoria Glendinning's Swift (Hutchinson) gives a splendid likeness to the great gloomy Dean - sharp and sympathetic. She shows Jonathan Swift as lonely, frantic and horribly furny; a mixture of sadness and vituperation, with some very odd ideas about women. All the things that did the damage and also made him great. Justin Cartwright's Leading the Cheers (Sceptre) is a novel about going home to America - and finding the place haunted by ghosts of yourself and your friends when young, along with the Redskin ghosts who haunt American prosperity. It is funny and tender and does the essential thing: it speaks for the dead. Fatima's Scarf by David Caute (Totterdown Press) is a terrific novel . A tale of everyday bigotry in the heart of England, it scared off every publisher who saw it and so Caute published it himself. It takes in the Rushdie affair, Asian values and Western hypocrisy in an outrageous attack on self-importance,

My big Christmas immersion will be in the second volume of Richard Holmes's matchless revivification of Coleridge. Darker Visions (Harper-Collins), but the biography I most enjoyed in 1998 was Mark Amory's Lord Berners: the last eccentric (Chatto), less for the portrait of the polymorphously silly Gerald Tyrwhitt than the more generally farcical Sitwells-and-Firbank ambience of literary England between the wars. For similar reasons, I loved Paul Theroux's wickedly total recall of VS Naipaul's snobbery, petulance and vainglory through three decades of peculiar "friendship" in Sir Vidia's Shadow (Hamish Hamilton). In a disappointing year for fiction, in which Ian McEwan's otherwise delightful Amsterdam (Cape) was spoiled by its awful O Henry-ish ending, the most accomplished debut was Giles Foden's The Last King of Scotland (Faber), a vivid evocation of Seventies Uganda and the "naked visceral attraction" a terrible dictator could hold for a Western liberal doctor. And Barney Hoskyns's brief, sparkling Glam!: Bowie, Bolan and the Glitter Rock Revolution (Faber) reminded us precisely

Michael Arditti Novelist and critic

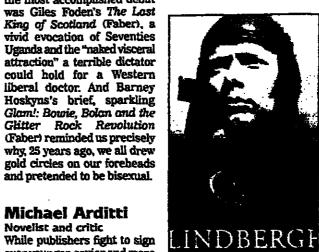
and pretended to be bisexual.

While publishers fight to sign ever younger, sexier and more modish writers, the finest novels to have come my way this year have been by three veterans: David Storey's A Serious Mon (Cape), at once a fascinating summation of a life's work, a searing account of mental fragility, and a ringing art; Maureen Duffy's Restitution (Fourth Estate), an intensely thought-provoking exploration of national and personal identity with persuasive portraits of life in modern London and wartime Berlin: and Susan Hill's The Service of Clouds (Chatto), a quietly passionate study of family tragedy written in luminous, impressionistic prose.

Aamer Hussein

Mimi Khalvati's long poem Entries on Light (Carcanet) comes first. Shimmering fragments of subjectivity and

sweeping visions of the lived landscapes of language, love and loss, coalesce. Reviewers heralded the glory of short fiction; Annie Proulx's Brokeback Mountain (Fourth Estate) and AS Byatt's Elementals (Chatto) bore them out, but I'll go for my neighbourhood and the underrated Carlo Gebler's W9 and Other Lives (Marion Boyars): this man, like Pritchett and Trevor, really has the knack. Novels I recommend: Gebler's How to Murder a Man (Little, Brown). a drama of love, revenge, and justice in rural Ireland; Christa Wolf's re-take on the Greeks, Medea (Virago). Two fine debuts: Rabin Alameddina's Koolaids (Abacus), a reflection on civil war, art and disease: James Bradley's Wruck (Review), a re-imagining of Australian histories. Reprint: Sara Suleri's exquisite memoir



Meatless Days (Flamingo).

Pete Davies

Writer on sport Every night when we finished another chapter, my children -Joe, 8, and Megan, 5 - howied for more. Carol Hughes's Jack (Bloomsbury) is a glorious adventure story, like Jules Verne recast by Terry Gilliam. and we all really loved it. John M Barry's Rising Tide (Touchstone) is a truly enthralling history of the great Mississippi flood of 1926. Pitting awesome natural forces against heroic engineers and a corrupted social order, Barry's book possesses an epic power and scale. The best thriller of the year was undoubtedly-James Lee Burke's Sunset Limited (Orion), and the best football book, by a country mile. was Alyson Rudd's achingly funny Astroturf Blonde (Headline).

A STORY THAT HAD TO BE TOLD

'An accessible, deeply moving and thoroughly contemporary book . . . Every household in Britain should have a copy lest we forget what is happening in Tibet' PATRICK FRENCH, SUNDAY TIMES



A STORY THAT HAS TO BE READ

'Palden Gyatso's testimony is one of the most carraordinary stories of suffering and endurance... (He) is an inspiration to us all THE DAIAI LAMA

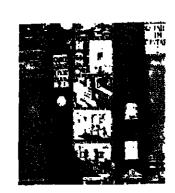
FIRE UNDER THE SNOW TESTIMONY OF A TIBETAN PRISONER

PALDEN GYATSO



now at all good bookshops

THE YEAR



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Pete Davies Willer on sport.

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IRY THAT TOLD.



Charles Nicholi Travel writer

the year was Neil Parsons's King Khama, Emperor Joe and the Great White Queen (University of Chicago Press), a



Camille Paglia

Sara Suleri's exquisite near and support against the incur-Mouthern Days (Flaming) is sions of Cecil Rhodes. Given the vast literature of Victorian travel in Africa, it is refreshing to see it all the other way round. The story is beautifully told: sometimes poignant, sometimes comic, ultimately heartening. Less unexpected was the excellence of James Hamilton-Paterson's reissued Playing with Woter (Granta). Written in his characteristically terse yet shimmering prose, the book Feinstein's greater poetic seamlessly weaves together an account of his sojourn on an uninhabited Philippine island, and a memoir of his post-war British childhood.

Beryl Bainbridge

In the last 12 months I've read more newly published books than in as many years, mainly because I've spenta lot of time tween Anna Akhmatova and

me the most pleasure in terms The unexpected pleasure of of excellence of writing plot and sheer readability were AN Wilson's Dream Children (Murray), Paul Bailey's Kitty and Virgil (Fourth Estate), and Amanda Foreman's Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire (HarperCollins). Lastly (I only bought it two days ago), Ethel

and E .- not (Cape), a subtle and affectionace moir in words and pirtures of his parents by even only chap capable of bridging without strain the credibility gap between adult and child. I nate talking about worst books. Ranulph Fiennes Fit For Life (Little, Brown) isn't had in itself. but just goes on about how to be healthy. No ciggies, no chips, no alcohol... He doesn't mention that of the five in 1912 who perished on their way back from the South Pole, Taff Evans liked his drink, Edward Wilson had TB yet smoked, as did Oates, Bowers and Scott. It was the weather that killed them, not a fatty diet or fags.

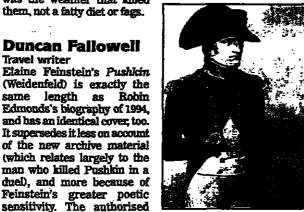
Duncan Fallowell Travel writer

same length as Robin Edmonds's biography of 1994, and has an identical cover, too. It supersedes it less on account of the new archive material (which relates largely to the man who killed Pushkin in a duel), and more because of sensitivity. The authorised Laurence Durrell (Faber) by Ian McNiven was dreadful, so thank goodness Gordon Bowker's unjustly neglected biography of 1996, Through the Dark Labyrinth, came out in paperback (Pimlico). The Guest From The Future (John Murray) by Gyorgy Dalos examines the famously brief and fateful meeting in St Petersburg be-

on trains. The ones that gave Isaiah Berlin. The book subtly gets it right: she is a major figure, he's a bit of a twit.

Tony O'Reilly Chairman, Independent

Newspapers pic John Ehrman's massive work on Pitt the Younger has a har-rowing final scene in which Pitt, on his death bed at 46. cries: "Oh that it were for England." He felt he had failed and that Napoleon's victories at Ulm and Austerlitz represented the triumph of France and the isolation of England. How wrong he was; how great his reputation is today. The chronicle of the next eight years leading to Waterloo is traced in Alistair Home's extraordinary book How For from Austerlitz? (Papermac). Home combines a gripping eye for detail with provocative sources and obiectivity. He leads you to the conclusion that although Napoleon could forge tempo-



rary alliances, particularly of a family nature, he could never make permanent friends. The end was inevitable, though punctuated by flashes of Napoleonic brilliance. Wellington's five-year Iberian campaign leads to Napoleon's penultimate defeat, his escape from Elba and the final battle

Bras", or Waterioo, as it will be forever called. Waterloo shaped the map of Europe for almost a century and Horne's wonderful book shows the reason why. When Napoleon died in 1821, in exile on a lonely rock in the South Atlantic, the ever-disloyal Tallevrand is quoted as saving: "It is no longer an event, it is only a piece of news."

Lachlan Mackinnon

Poet and critic Two books of poems and a biography particularly stood out. One was Paul Muldoon's Hay (Faber), which showed how the poet's famous obliquity is now married to an occasional and startling emotional directness. Each book Muldoon publishes is conceived as a unit and becomes an event; the playful sadness of this one is engross-ing. Andrew Motion's Selected Poems 1976-1997 (Faber) rewrites some poems for the sake of clarity; they are fasci-nating, but the book will bring to new readers a full sense of the limpid, very English note of sorrow with which this fine poet regards the world. Park Honan's very readable Shakespeare: A Life (Oxford) is excellent on background, consolidates our knowledge and prepares readers for the debate

Peter Parker Critic and biographer

Shakespeareans.

about Shakespeare's religion

The Warhol Look: glamour, style, fushion (Bullfinch Press), which was published to accompany the hugely enjoyable exhibition at the Barbican Centre, is not a catalogue, but an engrossing book in its own right. Warhol blurred both consumerism and art, and saw the genuinely radical dragqueen aesthetic of The Factory gradually becoming main-

Novelist

David Bowie stream. Personally, I'd rather have the Joe Dallesandro from Trash than the one in the Calvin Klein ads, but this book celebrates both incarnations. Sumptuously produced, lavishly illustrated, this also proved to be the bargain of the year. I also had no idea what a good writer Gary Indiana was until I read Resentment (Quartet), a brilliantly observed panoramic novel set in Los Angeles during the Menendez Trial. The book makes demands on both the reader's natience and stomach, but it is also very funny indeed, and I found myself laughing and recoiling in equal measure.

Carol Birch which is beginning to absorb Novelist and critic

This year, The Life of Thomas More (Chatto) once again illustrates Peter Ackroyd's brilliant ability to conjure up another age. An incisive and spirited biographer, he catches the incredible diversity of More, the profound seriousness and endless humour. He conveys a world-view alien to ours without any taint of the patronising modern tendency to rewrite history in our own image. Hilary Mantel shows a similar ability in her novel The Giant, O'Brien (Fourth Estate), though here

The widest possible selection.

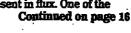
her depiction of Ireland and London in the 18th century has a decidedly mythical tang about it. Blending the Irish bardic tradition, the freak show and the uneasy co-dependence of grave-robber and anatomist. it compels from its misty Gaelic opening to its powerful end.

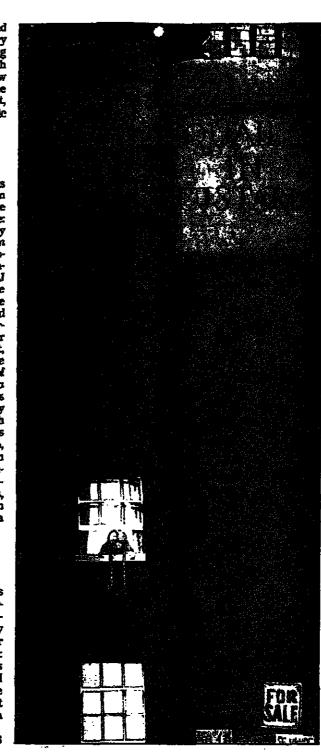
Shena Mackay

I have read a great many books this year in the course of often pleasurable duty. Here are some I read purely for pleasure: Kitty and Virgil by Paul Bailey (Fourth Estate), Restitution by Maureen Duffy (Fourth Estate), Pleasured by Philip Hensher (Chatto), Tresposs by D.J. Taylor (Duckworth). These vastly different novels all evoke recent history, British and European, in enthralling narratives hallmarked with their authors' individual insight, humour and poignancy. The hearthreaking subject matter of Clive Sinclair's A Soop Opera From Hell (Picadoc), the deaths of his wife and other family members, is handled with grace. Even in describing his ordeals as a latter-day Job, Sinclair's sardonic humour is in play. Throughout an intellectually and geographically wideranging collection of essays, wisdom and humanity inform the sharp observations of a unique writer.

Gabriel Josipovici

Critic and novelist Al Qahira moans "the victorious one" and in Cairo: The City Victorious (Picador), Max Rodenbeck has managed what, to my mind, even Jan Morris in her acclaimed Venice failed to do: to bring a city to life in all its sprawling, noisy, many-layered reality, and to convey the sense we get living there of a past impinging on the present; of a present in flux. One of the





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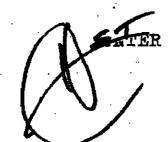
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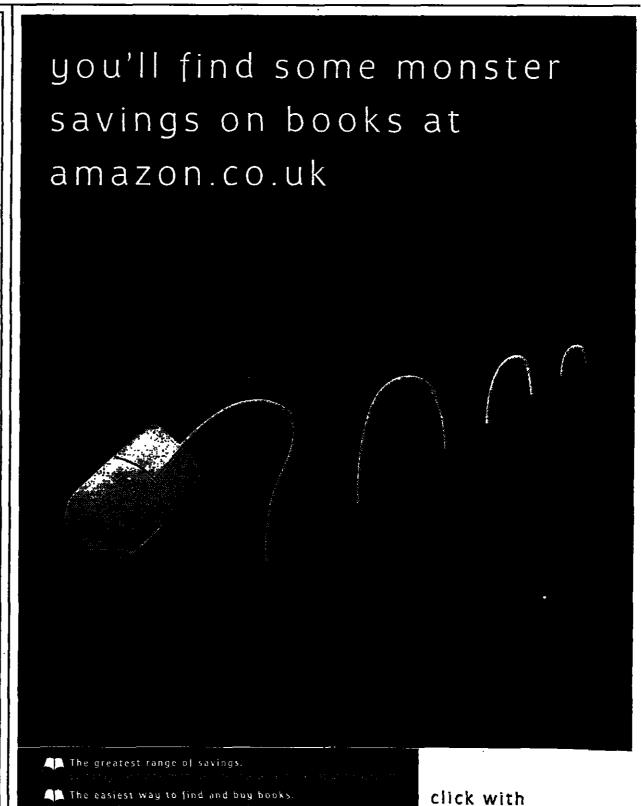


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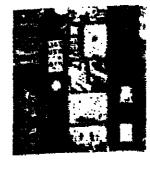
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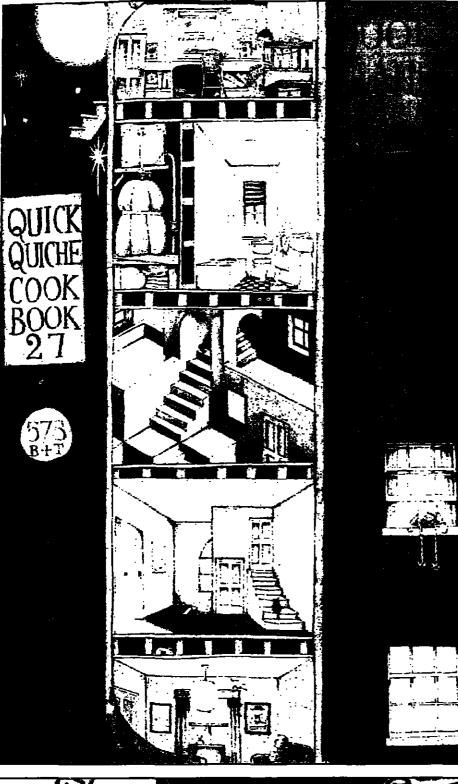


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BOOKS OF THE YEAR





5 SALISBURY WINCHESTER ENGLAND, ENGLAND Julian Barnes Shortlisted for the 1998 Booker Prize 'He has written nothing more poignant and enticing... A commanding imaginative achievement.' Barnes's satiric relish... runs at glorious full tilt... Delightful stuff...' Valentine Cunningham, Independent 'Splendidly enjoyable... a typical Barnes novel only. in that it is completely unlike any of his others.'

Steven Poole, Independent on Sunday

JONATHAN CAPE

found its portraitist and biographer. Timothy Hyman's Bonnard (Thames & Hudson) also rises triumphantly above its genre. Hyman is excellent on the real strength of the book lies in the fact that it is written by a painter and so manages to



Ian McEwan

convey the feel of Bonnard's painterly struggles with each work, and of his painterly solutions. Finally, Aharon Appelfeld's The Iron Tracks (Schocken Books): not one of his very best, but still a cut above most fiction I read.

Carol Rumens

Consignments of visions and revisions were supplied by Richard Dawkins's Unweaving The Rainbow (Allen Lane) and Don Cupitt's After God (SCM Press). I plucked from an airport rack Great Jones Street by Don DeLillo (Vintage), and so began that happiest journey enthralling account of this through a new and trustworthy imagination. In poetry, Ian Duhig's Nominies (Carcanet) was a particular delight. The most over-hyped book of 1998 was Ted Hughes's Birthdoy Letters (Faber).

DJ Taylor Novelist and critic

Fifteen years in the making and in scope, Peter Davison's monumental edition of George Orwell: The Complete Works (Secker, 20 volumes) made everything else look puny. But I liked Julian Earwaker and Kathleen Becker's meticulously arranged Literary Norfolk: An Illustrated Companion (Chapter Six), the excellence of whose critical forays belies its modest title. Violet Powell's memoir The Departure Platform (Heinemann) seemed more funny and less snobbish than certain critics alleged.

John Campbell

Biographer In a field increasingly dominated by politicians' potboilers (Alan Clark, Roy Hattersley), some of the best contemporary history is being written by working journalists. Hugo Young's This Blessed Plot: Britain and Europe from Churchill to Blair (Macmillan) is thoroughly researched as well as vividly written, an unan-swerable indictment of the fail-ure of the whole political class over 50 years to confront Britain's future honestly. I have read three books about the Bard this year, but the one I was looking for was Park Honan's Shakespeare: a life (Oxford University Press), the most exhaustive, meticulous, usually scrupulous (though occasionally over-speculative) piecing together of the extraordinarily few known facts of Shakespeare's life. Fascinating detective work. Finally, Harry Thompson's Peter Cook: a life (Sceptre) is not your usual showbiz muckrake, but a real biography, the desperate story of a comic genius who could not maintain his early brilliance but was still one of the most influential figures of our time.

Penelope Lively

I was surprised that William Trevor's Death in Summer (Viking) was not on the Booker shortlist. This novel is vintage Trevor - its spare accuracy such that the narrative sweeps you along, and only later do you become aware of the subtleties behind the text. It feels a strange, sad story that seems

world's great cities has at last suspended in time; it could be now, or 40 years ago - and the construction is masterly. Barbara Trapido's The Trovelling Hornplayer (Hamish Hamilton) looked like a Booker bet, Bonnard's "life and times", but too, so it's good to see that it is up for the Whitbread. She writes with such verve and originality and is also adept at construction, so that a formal framework gives timeless overtones to a cast of up-to-themoment characters.

Frank McLynn Historian

Surely there can never have

been a better decade for biography. One keeps expecting the bubble to burst, but every year more and more first-rate lives appear. It is particularly invidious to have to select from 1998's embarrassment of riches, so the following are merely my favourites, rather than "the best", whatever that might mean. So: Smithy: the life of Sir Charles Kingsford-Smith by Ian Mackersey (Little, Brown), an exemplary study of a pioneer aviator, Lawrence: the uncrowned king of Arabia by Michael Asher (Viking), the apogee of the "footsteps" approach. Though not strictly speaking a biography, Explaining Hitler by Ron Rosenbaum (Macmillan) was more illuminating than the massively researched academic tomes the Führer seems

J G Ballard Novelist

Lindbergh by A Scott Berg

to attract.

(Macmillan) was the best biography I read this year, an heroic but flawed man who made the first solo flight across the Atlantic but stumbled when his feet touched the ground. A shy, publicity-hating loner, Lindbergh was unable to cope with his immense fame, and became a pro-Nazi sympathiser A uniquely 20thcentury tragedy. I read two highly enjoyable film books, Beneath Mulholland: thoughts on Holluwood and its ahosts. by David Thomson (Little, Brown), is a collection of essays, stories and speculations by one of the best film critics working today, the purest distillation of the Hollywood dream. The Birds by Camille Paglia (British Film Institute) is a mythographic analysis of Hitchcock's film, written with all Paglia's energy and intellectual sweep. Hugely entertaining.

Miranda Seymour

Biographer and novelist I'd like to give everybody copies of Beryl Bainbridge's best novel for years, Master Georgie (Duckworth) and of AS Byatt's delectable feast for the mind



Barbara Trapido

and the imagination in her short stories, Elementals (Chatto). Biography lovers would get Richard Holmes's Coleridge (HarperCollins, both volumes), Kathryn Hughes's magnificent biography of George Eliot: the last Victorian (Fourth Estate), Jane Dunn's fine Antonia White (Chatto), Michael Ignatieff's witty, sensitive, self-effacing life of Isaiah Berlin (Chatto) plus the first volume of Hilary Spurling's superb life of The Unknown Matisse (Hamish Hamilton). No marks to Sebastian Faulks's publishers for trying to ensure his novel a place on Christmas lists by sending out copies to contributors with the expressed hope that we would mention it. It's not his best book, but it didn't deserve this. Nor, certainly, did he.

Andrew Davies Novelist and TV writer

A Patchwork Planet by Anne Tyler (Chatto) - a richly pleasurable read, weaving extraordinary patterns out of apparently ordinary lives. If you've never read this author, start now, and if you like this one, there are plenty more, all good. This one might make a good movie of the quiet and delicate sort (nudge, nudge). Trollope's The Way We Live Now (Penguin or OUP) was a surprise, a dark and savage picture of the human jungle, with Melmotte the biggest beast, strongly resembling Robert Maxwell My next year's project for adaptation. And Sue Kreitzman's Complete Low-Fut Cookery (Piatkus): original but sound ideas, strong bright flavours, and it seems to do the business. I've lost over a stone. Mind you, I did knock off the

Jan Morris

Travel writer I shall remember three books in particular for giving me unexpected pleasure in 1998 two of them new, one of them old. The Evolution of the Grand Tour (Frank Cass) is by Professor Edward Chaney of the Southampton Institute and



I fell for its irresistible enthusiasm. Chaney has a profound scholarly knowledge of Anglo-Italian historical relationship but he is also a writer full of surprise and discursive curiosity, and I found this compilation of his writings a most beguiling delight. Francine du Plessix Gray's At Home with the Marquis de Sade (Chatto, February 1999) surprised me too, because it left me rather fond of the old pornographer. I knew very little about the women in his life, who sometimes remained astonishingly loyal through all his degradations, and (a bit late in the day, I know) for the first time I saw him as a libertine far more sinned against than sinning. Those were my two new books. My old one was Harriet Beecher Stowe's Uncle Tom's Cabin (Penguin or OUP).

Anthony Beevor Historian

Alexandra Richie's history of Berlin, Faust's Metropolis (HarperCollins), is everything one could want from such a book. Berlin is a fascinating subject, and Richie's study is balanced, scholarly, well-written and never dull. The weight is in the physical mass of the book nearly 1,200 pages - not the reading. She has a wonderful eye for detail and, most important of all in a story which stretches from the time of Charlemagne to today, a grasp of the essential. I very much doubt that it will ever be equalled, let alone surpassed. Amanda Foreman's Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire (HarperCollins) is a startlingly impressive début. Georgiana, born a Spencer and rising to become a fashion star, led what is now called a dysfunctional existence. Foreman wisely avoids any obvious modern parallels. Instead, she combines scholarly and imaginative research with an enviable prose and well-paced storytelling. It is not surprising that the book has enjoyed such a

Deborah Moggach

My greatest treat this year has been a new collection of stories by the always miraculous Lorrie Moore, Birds of America (Faber). Filled with both larkiness and despair, they are pure

bliss. It's been a strong year for novels, a fact largely unreflected in the Booker shortlist. For the Whitbread prize, we had to read 55 novels and, apart from our own shortlisted books, I admired many more, Among them was Shena Mackay's The Artist's Widow (Cape): Wonderfully astute about old age and callow youth, as it casts a beady eye over current artistic pretensions. I caught up with Jane Hamilton's A Map of the

World (Bloomsbury) and two

hugely enjoyable works of non-

fiction, Simon Schama's

Embarrassment of Riches

(HarperCollins) and Jenny

Uglow's Hogarth (Faber).

Mary Allen

Arts executive My two favourite books of this year have both been non-fiction. The best travel writing goes beyond descriptions of places and events. The Hoppy Ant-Heap by Norman Lewis (Cape) consists of around 20 short stories, spanning four continents and 70 years. Each individual episode or character - visiting a smoked ancestor in New Guinea, or eating aphrodisiacs in Cuba - encapsulates a way of life, and Norman Lewis humour that makes his accounts of disappearing civilisations all the more moving. My other favourite book is about cooking. As a fervent eater, and an enthusiastic but indifferent cook, I found Nigella Lawson's How to Eat (Chatto) a gloriously sensual wander through the possibilities of food. This book goes far beyond being a collection of recipes: ingredients are discussed, dif-

Christopher Hirst

the kitchen.

ferent approaches pondered,

and some of the recipes read

more like seduction than

It's been a good year for armchair salts. A book virtually baked with rime. The Perfect Storm by Sebastian Junger (Fourth Estate) is an instant maritime classic. So, in its finny way, is Cod: a biography of the fish that changed the world by Mark Kurlansky (Cape). Down with the Old Canoe by Steven Biel (Norton) is an absorbing account of how the Titanic has repeatedly re-surfaced as a metaphor. Back on dry land, Picture by Lillian Ross (Faber). about John Huston's butchered film of The Red Badge of Courage in 1949, is a wonderfully droll, dazzlingly observed classic of New Yorker journalism. Sadly, Here But Not Here (Faber), Ross's account of her secret life with that magazine's editor, William Shawn, turned

out to be a sogge cri-de-corur, Half in love with their tingerpopping style, half disgusted by their Vegas hedonism. Shawn Levy's Rat Pack Confidential (Fourth Estate) is as sharp and knowing as Frank Sinatra's

Gordon Burn

Novelist/true crime writer Probably the most inventive book I read this year was Billy Kluver's A Day With Picasso (MIT Press), which combines forensic thoroughness, scientific method and art history in a most strange and compelling way. Kluver's starting point is a set of 24 photographs which, by going to indefatigable lengths of on-the-spot measure and sleuthing, he establishes were taken on the afternoon of 12 August 1916 in Paris by Jean Cocteau, less than two weeks after Cocteau returned from fighting on the Somme. The photographs focus on Picasso as a central figure in the café life of Montparnasse, not yet monumental, and still in the process of inventing himself. Amplified by Kluver's obsessively detailed text, they represent a heroic feat of reconstruction which recreobserves these lives with a dry ates the period better than many very much longer books. I won't be alone in picking Birthday Letters by Ted Hughes, but I pick it anyway on the basis that it is the one book I have been reading all year and know I will go on reading into the future.

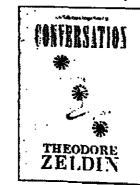
Boyd Tonkin

Independent literary editor, The Pritchett Century (Chatto) sampled some of the highlights from matchless Sir Victor's 60year career in fiction, memoirs. instruction. Not just a book for criticism and travel. Among new British novels, Rupert Thomson's Soft (Bloomsbury) should have reached one shortlist or another: newcomers should check out his backlist for a holiday treat (all Bloomsbury). Mixing fiction and history, W G Sebald - East Anglia's great German writer hits an austere perfection with The Rings of Saturn (Harvill). In The Corrosion of Character (Norton), Richard Sennett again raised sociology to the realm of art with a wise, funny account of life in our new highrisk, low-loyalty workplaces. Read it before they downsize you. Talking of wise and funny (and succinct, too), Little, Brown issued the Collected Stories of that evergreen New Yorker, Grace Paley

> All the book illustrations are taken from 'How To Live Forever' by Colin Thompson (Julia MacRae)

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SPOKEN WORD

BY CHRISTINA

HARDYMENT

The Surgeon of Crowthorne

Penguin, 3hrs, £8.99

SIMON WINCHESTER'S masterful

telling of the strange tale of WC

is one of those rare stories that

historical significance. The "sad

experiences in the American Civil

War to such a degree that he

murdered an innocent man and

was committed to Broadmoor in

1872. It was arguably the best thing

that could have happened to him.

The benevolent governor allowed

him free reign to import as many

became a major contributor to the

formidable undertaking of the first

Oxford English Dictionary. But

there was more to it than that...

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Minor, murderer and word-sleuth,



WEEKEND REVIEW

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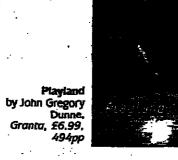
PAPERBACKS

BY EMMA HAGESTADT, CHRISTOPHER HIRST AND OLIVER SMIDDY



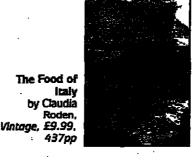
Victor Hugo by Graham Picador, £8.99,

FROM THE lapel-grasping opening about a plaque marking Hugo's conception at 3,000 feet in the Vosges to the post-mortem tribute of Parisian whores who "draped their pudenda in black crepe", Robb's wonderful, witty biography never fails to grip. Not only a literary titan who prefigured modernism, Hugo was an energetic painter and a revolutionary beacon (an attack on Napoleon III led to his expulsion to Guernsey). Robb notes, however, that "the work on which Hugo lavished the greatest amount of love and ingenuity [was] his life". This rocket of a book reminds us how much more there was to Hugo than Les Misérables.



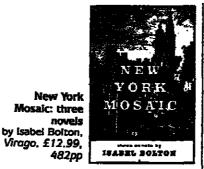
MELBA MAE Toolate, Hollywood's favourite ringletted "cinemoppet" disappeared at the age of 20 amid rumours of an illegitimate child and dealings with a Vegas hood. Forty-five years on, and famous eyebrows still ntact, she reappears in a VR park outside Detroit. Reading like the wellturned obituary of any number of half-remembered Forties stars, Dunne's fictional biopic (as related by playboy screenwriter Jack Broderick) plumbs Hollywood's more sensational myths. An LA insider, Dunne (brother of Dominic, husband of Joan Diction) has the knack of making dinner at Spage sound like the most exciting

event on earth.



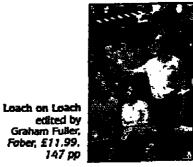
"THERE IS no such thing as Italian cooking", asserts the excellent Claudia Roden in this newly-expanded classic. The incomparably rich regional cuisine of the country stems from the patchwork sovereignty which succeeded the Romans. Roden gives a potted account of the gastronomy in Italy's 18 regions and provides about a dozen recipes for each area, from Piedmontese risottos and Venetian polenta to Apulian broad-bean purée and Sicily's raw tomato pasta sauce. Thorough, informative, accurate and more practical than certain glossy rivals, this book is mandatory for all

Italophiles.



KINGS

ON PUBLICATION of her first work nearly 50 years ago, Isabel Bolton was hailed by the influential New York critic, Diana Trilling, as "the most important new novelist in the English language to appear in years". Reminiscent of Elizabeth Bowen her novels of Upper East Side high society recall a long-gone era of Algonquin drinks parties, Newsree Theaters and sleigh rides in Central Park. The three novels (Many Monsions, Do I Wake or Sleep and The Christmas Tree), all feature an upper-middle-class heroine with a erished childhood and a closet full of dark secrets and very expensive frocks.



THOUGH DISDAINING the notion of the anteur, Ken Loach remains our most distinctive film-maker. His views are fascinating and trenchant. It is hard to imagine any other UK director slamming Channel 4 for "hypocrisy", or praising a tight budget ("people had to move fast... which makes performances better"), or turning down a Hollywood film because "it needed an American sensibility". Oddly, Foller claims that such sentimental confections as Brossed Off and The Full Monty are part of the Loach diaspora". As Loach says, "a lot of cinema now touches situations that are quite profound, but reduces them to a facile cinematic style."

The Death



Divorcing Jack

HarperCollins, 3hrs, £8.99

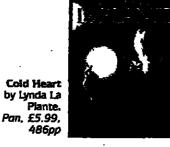
COLIN BATEMAN'S Belfast-set thriller is a roller-coaster ride of a book that will keep you chuckling and horrified in equal measure from start to finish. A drunken affair at a party is the trigger that sends journalist Dan Starkey into a nightmare world of murder and mayhem in which he's unsure whether his vengeful wife, the IRA, Protestant extremists or all three are out for his blood. James Nesbitt's almost edible Irish voice enhances the wit and wizardry of a story that is as much a mystery novel as a romance, and which deservedly won the Betty Trask Award in 1994

Embarrassment of Tyrannies: 25 years of Index on Censorship edited by WL Webb & Rose Bell. Indigo, £10.99. 347рр

INDEX MUST be one of the few magazines which might wish that it did not have such a rich archive.

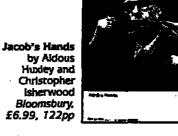
From 1972, George Mangakis reminds us how recently Greece suffered tyranny: "In a cell 10x10... I live with a number of ideas that I love." Herberto Padilla's poetry explores the mental confines of Cuba: "One: be an optimist/ Two: be discreet, correct, obedient/ (Do well at sports)". But the most outstanding item, not only because of the Pinochet affair, is an allegory by Ariel Dorfman comparing Chilean censorship to a doorbell: "Bell frees our pathways of the drunk, the filthy, the unemployed, all who ask God's

favour...". A chilling treasury.



IN THE last in this series of West Coast thrillers, Lynda La Plante says goodbye to the Hollywood Hills in a blaze of gunfire and beaver shots. Newly empowered by a face-lift and an efficient male secretary, private investigator Lorraine Page is back on the Beverly Hills beat. Her first case involves the death of a sleazy producer Harry Nathan, found buttocks up in his azure blue swimming pool. A trail of porno video evidence implicates his wife in the murder but Lorraine (ex-LA cop, ex-hooker) is determined to clear the young super-waif's name. A better read than Sue Grafton, La Plante slips effortlessly into the macho

world of the LAPD.



THIS FILM treatment, unearthed by Sharon Stone, inhabits familiar territory - the naive, benevolent Jacob finds he has the ability to heal sick animals, and is coerced into curing humans. He moves to LA in search of his beloved, where he falls prey to a duo of unsavoury entrepreneurs. Though not stylistically identifiable with either author, it is a decent, undernanding read. Two introductions are superb: the first provides insight into the authors' dalliances with Hollywood, the second elucidates Huxley's thoughts on the morality of healing. Of most interest to the writers' fans, but entertaining enough to be worth a glance from the rest of us.

A King's Story: of the Duke Prion, £12.

DESPITE PHILIP Ziegler's lukewarm intro ("it could have been a good deal worse"), these part-ghosted memoirs are unexpectedly enjoyable, mainly because of their odd Pooterish details. The great highlight of Edward's Oxford days appears to have been a trick performed by a servant involving "a banana in the neck of a bottle filled with burning paper". A major triumph of his brief reign was carrying his own umbrella, "as useful a convenience to a Briton as a ten-gallon hat is to a Texan". Tantalisingly, he notes that Wallis Simpson "was, and still remains, complex and elusive". Sadly, he gives no details of the sexual arts she is said to have acquired in the Orient.

Joyce Scholar of a Joyce by Bartholomew Scholar A&B Crime £5.99, 391pp WHEN DUBLIN'S foremost Joyce

The Death of a

scholar, Kevin Coyle, is stabbed through the heart near Glasnevin Cemetery, the city's most eminent policeman, Inspector Peter McGarr, is summoned from his vegetable garden to help. As literate a cop as Morse (and with as nice a sitting-room), McGarr starts scanning his bookshelves in search of clues. Luckily for him, and us, he doesn't have to plough through the whole of Ulysses to find them. Like PD James, Gill's mysteries have a strong sense of place but are a little over-clever to be called fun. Part of a new series of austere-looking mysteries issued under the Allison & Busby imprint.

BESTSELLERS The state of the s

copies this week than last. But this is partly due to the Christmas boost to non-fiction sales. Sales of Notes From a Big Country and Blackadder: the whole damn dynasty

tripled. After returning for one week, Ted Hinghes's Birthday Letters has been supplimed by Sarah Kennedy's Terrible Toos. The top three fiction titles

from Kathy, Lette and Tom Wolfe and the return of Robert Harris's Archangel. Compiled from data supplied by bookshops on sales over seven days 1922 November 1998 © Bookwatch Ltd, 1998

	ORIGINAL FICTION				ORIGIN	VAL NON-FICTION		
CONTINUE OF STATE OF	AUTHOR/PUBLISHER	WEEKLY SALES	PRICE		TITLE	AUTHOR/PUBLISHER	WEEKLY SALES	PRICE
(1) Carpe Jugulum	Terry Pratchett (Doubleday)	13,427	£16.99	11 (1)	Delia's How to Cook	Delia Sixiah (BBC)	36,686	£16.99
2 (7) Tara Road	Maeve Binchy (Orion)	4,115	£16.99	2 (2)	Notes From a Big Country	Bill Bryson (Doubleday)	16,645	£16,99
3 (6) Field of 13	Dick Francis (M Joseph)	3,713	£6.99	3 (7)	The Life of Birds	David Attendorough (BBC)	10,584	£18.99
(5) Charlotte Gray	- Sebastian Faulks (Hutchinson)	3,531	£16.99	4 (-)	Blackadder	Richard Curtis et al (M Joseph)	-	£15.99
5 (4) Point of Origin	Patricia D Cornwell (Little, Brown)	3,463	£16.99	5 (3)	The Little Book of Calm	Paul Wison (Penguin)	5.035	£1.99
5 (-) Archangel	Robert Harris (Hutchinson)	3,167	£16.99	6 (-)	Real Food	Niger State: (4th Estate)	4,426	£18.99
7 (7) Amsterdam	lan McEwan (Cape)	2,903	£14.99	7 (6)	Little Book of Feng Shul	Littan Too (Element)	4,398	£1.99
3 (-) Altar Ego	Kathy Letté (Picador)	2,452	£12.99	8 (9)	Addicted	Tony Adams (CollinsWillow)	4,300	£16.99
(-) A Man in Full	Tom Wolfe (Cape)	- 2.262	£20.00	9 (5)	Men Are From Mars	John Gray (Thorsons)	4,100	£9.99
0 (6) Rainbow Six	. Tom Glancy (M Joseph)	1,972	£16.99	ho (-).	Terrible Imos 2	Sarah Kennedy (BBC)	4,026	£4.99

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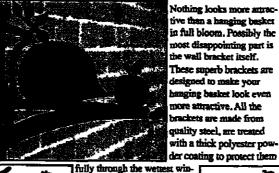
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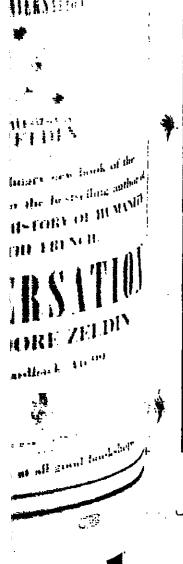
interesting, Alma Mabler

had an all-consuming

interest in the bulge in

"CLEVER BUT not

men's trousers..."; "I should hate anyone to pass by such a fascinating book, just because the pictures consist of chaps in orange helmets gripping chainsaws..."; "These ultraexplicit pictures are very beautiful and profoundly pervy in equal measure. Well, not quite equal...". In next Saturday's Weekend Review, a packed sleighful of expert contributors select the best books for pleasure to give or to receive - this Christmas, Ursula Buchan chooses the pick of the gardening crop; Geoff Dyer brings photography titles into focus; Harry Pearson referees the crowded field of sports writing; John Gribbin distills the finest in popular science, and Michael Church looks for harmony amid the din of music publishing. Plus: the best of the year in children's books, food and drink, reference works, art. architecture and design.



A city garden, the urban answer

WORKSHOP: How do you plan a garden to appeal to adults and children? Anna Pavord offers a solution

RECENTLY WE have moved into our first proper house so that our son, Joshua, can have a garden to play in. At the moment it is still a dump, but I wondered if you could give me some ideas about organising the territory so that Joshua has room to do what he wants to do and I have space to do some gardening. I have not had a garden before, but I am very keen to learn."

DENONE DALE, her husband Ashley and twoyear-old Joshua have just moved into the kind of place familiar to many city dwellers. It is a mid-19th-century terraced house with a long, thin strip of garden at the back. They are lucky in having good boundary walls of London stock brick, an attractive buffbrown colour, and borrowed trees all around which create a surprisingly leafy oasis.

Oenone is clear about what she wants from the garden. "A place where we can eat outside: an area where Joshua can kick a ball around and let off steam: a sandoit, which can be got rid of later; a place where I can grow herbs." She is also clear on the look she wants: big. bold plants and not too many of them.

You can gauge her style from the there's a vast stainless steel SMEG fridge and not much else. The sitting-room is all sofa and serenity, the only ornament a huge orchid with five flower spikes standing in the window. "Columbia Road," she said, when I commented on the plant's size and beauty. "Twelve quid." How do orchid growers live?

The back garden is almost four times as long as it is wide, 64ft x 17ft, stained whatever colour she want-Access is through French windows at the level of the semi-basement. Immediately outside is a strip of concrete, with steps leading up to the garden proper. The retaining wall to the right of the steps is of harsh modern red brick. It is doing a necessary job, but it is ugly compared with the softly coloured old brick of the house and boundary walls.

WEEKEND



Although two-year-old Joshua Dale had sensibly found a way of bumping down the existing steps from the garden to the house, child unfriendly features needed reworking

diately outside the French windows. This would be convenient for the kitchen, certainly, but not good for any other reason

The back of the house faces inside of the house. In the kitchen north. Decking here would never get sun and anyway, if the garden is to be roughly zoned into his (Joshua's) and her territory, Joshua, while he is still young, will be happier playing close to the house.

Instead, I suggested putting a slightly raised wooden deck at the back of the garden, full width and protected at its back and sides with trellis panels. The trellis could be ed (pale bluey green, taupe, silvery grey) and would provide a pleasant sense of refuge.

Stretched right across the back of the garden, the deck would provide plenty of space for outdoor living. "A huge Thai bench with cushions," said Oenone decisively, standing among the bent tin, corrugated iron, broken glass and bedings that presently litter most of make a decked eating area imme- the garden. It would be a good place

neighbours' gardens from the ones they back on to.

As a rough boundary marker to adult territory, I suggested a loose from the sitting area back to the divider of uprights and crossbeams running across the width of the garden. She could cover it with wisteria (a passion of hers, she said) roses, clematis and a decorative vine such as the strawberry flavoured 'Fragola'

Fatsia japonica: handsome

Stems topped now with vast

leathery leaves, more than 1ft

across, like a fig's but evergreen.

panicles of milky white flowers.

It likes shelter and some shade.

Euphorbia mellifera: a fabulous

spurge, much less tender than

has been supposed. Sea-green

ves and brown flowers, which

to sit, with a row of pleached limes side and one in the middle, but it to leave room for a little gardening behind screening Oenone's and her would be much better to set a pair activity. On the right-hand side there of posts about 4ft apart on either side and leave the middle open (except for the crossbeam) to frame the view house. After my experiences with our collapsing pergola, I would use green oak for the construction

rather than larch or other softwood. If the decking were 17ft wide (matching the width of the garden) and, say, 10ft deep, the divider could be set 12-14ft in front of the decking

appear in late spring, smelling

habit, like a firework frozen in

mid-performance. 'Albertii' has

variegated with red and white.

Aralia elata'Variegata':

sword shaped green leaves

Deciduous and without its

Cordyline australis: elegant

of honey.

is an old brick-edged raised bed, perhaps the remnants of an old-fashioned cold frame, where Oenone could grow herbs.

Between divider and house was 26ft of garden for Joshua. The chief difficulty, it seemed to me, was to

work out how he could most safely move from house to garden. Which is not to say that one ought to be too protective. I was brought up on the STYLISH PLANTS WITH MINIMALIST APPEAL

but furnished from spring to

autumn with pinnate leaves 3ft

long. Big, flat heads of creamy

Polystichum setiferum

it is happy, damp and shaded.

Very finely cut fronds; elegant,

ding shuttlecock sha

flower in August and September.

Bevis': One of the most fabulous

of ferns, almost evergreen where

more than 4ft high and there is nothing there to stop a child who is running backwards after a ball from running right off the edge and crashing into the concrete below. It would be a hard landing. I suggested the Dales brought in a contractor to remake the steps so that they stretched from their present lefthand edge right across to the righthand boundary wall, eliminating

can be guarded from all hazards.

The steps that presently lead

from the strip of concrete outside the

French windows up to the level of the

garden are too narrow to look good

and too steep to be child-friendly, al-

though I noticed that Joshua had al-

bumping down them on his bottom.

The retaining wall of red brick is

the retaining wall. This would make the steps about 8ft wide, provide an elegant introduction to the garden and make it

fers will drown" and do not believe would require some serious earthmoving. Hence the contractor. All the it is realistic to expect that children

rest of the work they could do

themselves. Joshua's sand pit would fit well in the corner close to the house on the left-hand side of the steps. Under the rubbish, Oenone had already uncovered an old brick path, about 3ft ready sensibly worked out a way of wide, running up the left-hand side of the garden. This is a great gift and, although it dictates a particular way of using the garden, I would be in favour of leaving it. The levels will need to be sorted out after the work on the steps but, when that is done, the whole of the area between path and the right-hand boundary can be

laid to grass. It will need to be tough grass, but Oenone was quite clear that the patch had to be green. "It's softer, nicer for Josh, I think. And nicer to look at, too." So no crushed bark.

The disadvantage of the proposed layout struck me as I was driving home. The centre of the needed to be less steep, too, which temptingly like a goalmouth.

ANNA PAVORD

THE FIRST consignment of potted bulbs has been nowering in the kitchen for some weeks now. These are Paperwhite' narcissi, small flowers but lots of them clustered on the stem and the smell outrageously swoony. They flower like clockwork, six weeks after planting. Too late for Christmas but, planted now. they will give a welcome boost to the New Year.

Check other potted bulbs, such as hyacinths, that are slower to develop. They should be kept in a cool place and not be allowed to dry out. Bring the bowls out of their cool, dark resting place when the flower spike is visible above ground. Mice can sometimes be a problem, nibbling the fresh new growth. Set traps if necessary.

Start to think about seed orders. There is a far wider selection in nurserymen's catalogues than you will ever find in a garden centre. I am still getting flowers on a snapdragon called Purple King' (Thompson & Morgan £1,49 which has spokes of vivid velvety purple flowers. It would have done even better if I had propped it up with some twiggy sticks before it started to flop. rather than after. I sowed the seed on 10 March and it germinated in 19 days, Do not cover the seed tray. The seed needs light to germinate.

No need to dig for dusty old tomes

Don't worry if you can't find a favourite antiquarian gardening book because diligent searching can often unearth copies in facsimile form. And the hunt will be well worth it. By Ursula Buchan

I SHOULD like to say that I am a collector of antiquarian gardening books, but I am not. Or certainly not a devoted one who makes a hobby of it, setting aside a sum of money each year for buying them, and never passing up a specialist catalogue, or walking past a second-hand bookshop window, without diving in. Moreover, I am slightly foxed, as the book catalogues put it, by the notion of buying a book more for its rarity value, or the quality of the binding and paper, than for what it contains.

Although I have several shelves of second-hand gardening books, I find I am often as happy to buy a reprint or facsimile edition as an original. Gardening classics are books which, however long ago they were published, still speak to us elegantly and forcefully, illuminating some aspect of the business of gardening and gardens, to which we can still respond. The fact that much of the practical or botanical information has long since lost its meaning or relevance, and may even be downright misleading, is neither here nor there.

The problem is that the true classics of earlier times are often hard to find, even in late editions. There are more than enough bibliophiles and collectors to ensure that. Often, the most affordable and available are the ephemera of an earlier age, most of which should have died with it. For every prized set of EA Bowles's trilogy about his garden at Myddelton House, there will be several copies of Alfred Austin's The Garden that I Love or Mrs Cran's The Garden of Experience tearlier women garden writers were much given to discursive chat about the benefits of public school. or how to deal with Cook, so count







Classic flowery prose: above left: "The Mill Garden'; left: 'My Garden in Summer', and main picture: 'Flowers and Their Histories'

toned on to this, so that there are reprints and facsimiles of the best Garden in Autumn and Winter, classics to be found, either new or will be published next year. The in second-hand bookshops and cat- cover price is £17.99, which puts it alogues. Thanks to Timber Press, for within range of all who do not flinch example, it is possible to buy at buying a hardback book. Fortunately, some years ago a Bowles's My Gorden in Spring and

Antique Collectors' Club) also exist

AND THEIR HISTORIES

number of specialist publishers cot- My Garden in Summer in facsimifor the vast majority of Gertrude le form, and the last of the three, My Jekyll's works, which deserve to be read not just for the elegance and for the enormous influence that she

Facsimiles (published by the

Flower Garden, went through so many editions that it is still relatively easy to find, particularly in the version edited by Roy Hay in the 1950s. Some wonderful literature has been produced (and still is), as a result of the pains and pleasures of

William Robinson, The English

plant-hunting and collecting, of which the best-known examples in this century are the many books by Frank Kingdon-Ward and Reginald Farrer. Farrer is probably most famous for his The English Rock Garden in two volumes, unfortunately not available in facsimile and often to be encountered in book catalogues. His prose is not for the verbally squeamish, nevertheless no one has ever described better the excitement of finding a new plant in the wild.

Other well known names to look out for on dusty spines are John Claudius Loudon, his wife Jane, S Reynolds Hole (Dean of Rochester), Mrs C W Earle, Eleanor Sinclair Rohde, Vita Sackville-West and Margery Fish. Sometimes it is fun to go down the byways of earlier literature, with the help of lesserknown authors, such as AT Johnson. EB Anderson, Sir Edward Salisbury, Jason Hill, Alice Coats and the aptly-named Sir Arthur Hort. HE Bates's gardening books, such as A Love of Flowers, are a delight, as you

would expect. As for modern classics, I hesitate to name names, for that would be invidious, but I am willing to bet that there are at least half-a-dozen contemporary gardening authors whose books will be read for pleasure, for both what they say, and the elegance with which they say it by the bibliolightly ironic tone of the prose, but philes of the 22nd century. It is pleasant to think that our gardenhas had on 20th-century gardening. minded descendants will have the same fun as we have had.

CUTTINGS

NEWS FROM THE GARDENER'S WORLD THE GREAT flint-faced

house at West Dean, near Chichester, West Sussex, once belonged to Willie James, patron of Dali and other surrealists. Its bold trustees have underwritten a grand recreation of the glory days of the Edwardian era: peach houses, vine houses, pineapple pits, orchid houses and a grand pergola that stretches for 300ft across the lawn. It is now a college and in winter, there are garden courses and study days. On 9 December Sasha Crabb will suggest ideas for making Christmas decorations from your garden. This is aimed particularly at beginners and costs £45. For details (or to book) call 01243 811301.

GROWERS IN Scotland will run an Introduction to Organic Gardening at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, on Saturdays (10am-12.30pm) from 13 February to 20 March. The course will suggest practical ways to make your garden green. It costs £70. For more information call 0131 248 2841 or contact the Community Education Officer at the RBG, 20A Inverleith Row, Edinburgh EH3 5LR

STOCK UP with Christmas presents at Jim Keeling's end-of-season sale at the Whichford Pottery, Whichford, near Shipston on Stour, Warwickshire, He makes a huge range of garden pots, traditional unglazed terracotta as well as glazed ware designed by himself and his wife. Dominique. The sale lasts until 6 December. Tea, coffee and home-made soup are on tap at the weekends. The pottery is open daily (9am-5pm). For more details and prices call 01608 684416.

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The major work of her contemporary



MEKEND REVIEW

क्रमानि एक्सकरः । जास अस्ति छ muche thousands continue to great of the work they code; Herrie L.

Andreas - saturation would not the normer claim to the base ophelt Band rate titler tops links Culture : Percette l'actelieure perspective of the contraction disease. wide, surror a profite lefthings जी सीम प्राप्तकार कि अंतर जाता है। ming a color of figurality was address. Face out in Backs ter fire etta villa och ing i Timberett. marel for the continue of the continue of a century has

CETTINGS

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Dennis Avon/Ardea

THIS WINTER, if you arrive home to find your garden bird peanut-holder torn to shreds on the ground and the contents gone, do not jump to the conchasion that you bave overly aggressive grey squirrels in residence. Instead, and especially if you live around London or the Home Counties, watch out for a far more exotic and colourful creature which, some years hence, could turn out to

Squawk on the wild side

The vibrant green ring-necked parakeet can strip a plum tree in minutes with its large red

beak. Now thousands have settled near fruit-growing areas of Britain. By Malcolm Smith

Voodchester Mansion: supposedly purpose-built as a papal retreat and partly designed by Charles Hansom, it's an astonishing gothic creation

his design of the new House of

years experts believed that Bucknall

was responsible for the whole house.

Now it is thought that the back half

was designed by Charles Hansom

(brother of the inventor of the

Hansom cab), and only the front part

all beautifully executed in honey-

coloured Cotswold stone, more fit for

a cathedral than for a private

dwelling. The back is plainer, more

domestic, though also exceedingly

solid. Both halves have extrava-

gant touches; just as nine stone owls lurk along the rear roof-line of the

inner courtyard, so water-chutes in

the form of grotesque stone gar-

This front portion is by far the

n certain days a unfinished a dozen years later. We of Gothic revival already famous for

sioned it was William Leigh, a well- Commons - built between 1843 and

to-do philanthropist and Roman 1846. But patron and architect fell

Catholic convert. But what was the out, and Pugin's drawings were de-

Leigh intended to live in the house had grown up near Woodchester. For

Until recently it had seemed that Bucknall, a young architect who

by Bucknall.

know that the man who commis-

himself, and to recreate a medieval

community, monastic and self-

sufficient: hence its ecclesiastical

architecture, its handsome chapel

built as an integral part of the main

however, has suggested that he

elements that haunt the mansion. It for visiting Catholic dignitaries, or pointed arches, carved mantel-

This is only one of the strange imeant the mansion to be a retreat grander - deep buttresses, steeply

Either way, the design of the

vealed that the front and back halves

are imperfectly aligned and must

mid-1850s and was abandoned from Augustus Pugin - the pioneer goyles sprout from the front of the

great Gothic pile for?

be an abominable nuisance. The creature in question is a gorgeously coloured bird, not much smaller than a magpie, which screeches noisily whether flying or at rest.

The ring-necked parakeet band; with a long tail and a large, red beak - is a native of parts of Asia and tropical Africa. It first appeared in the wild in Britain in 1969.

According to Josephine Pithon of the University of York, who has been carrying out research on southern England's ring-necked parakeets, we now have about 2,000 of them. The birds are scattered as far afield as South Wales and East Anglia.

"The largest single population is in west London, stretching from Windsor in the west to Richmond in the east and to Reigate in the south", says Ms Pithon. "There are two smaller populations, one mainly around Margate and Ramsgate, and the other in southeast

Were it not for the food that from birds released by return-

these exotic birds brighten up many a cold, damp winter aftermoon in Cheam. It sounds harmless enough: a vegetarian diet of berries, nuts and fruits. But Britain's main populations of ring-necks are perilously close to some of the main fruitgrowing areas of England. One or two of them can devour the plums on a garden tree in a few hours, so just think what havoc they might cause among the pear, apple, plum and other soft fruit bushes in Kent.

"Potentially, yes, they could cause a considerable amount of damage," says Sir Christopher Lever, an expert on introduced vibrant green all over, save for animals, including birds. "But." a narrow, pink and black neck he adds quickly, "so far they haven't been a problem."

> Josephine Pithon's research confirms this view, although she does note that they have strike lucky, and other birds caused damage to garden orchards by taking a peck from each fruit before letting it fall. Nevertheless, concern that ring-necked parakeets could have the makings of a major pest explains why the research was sponsored by the Ministryt of Agriculture.

No one is sure how these birds arrived in Britain. They may have come from free-flying homing birds kept as pets which failed to make it back to their aviaries. They may have been escapees from pet shops or from exotic bird farms. Or, according to the ornithological literature, they may derive

they eat, you could argue that ing sailors when they realised the expense involved in a lengthy period of quarantine. Or a combination of all three.

However they came to be here, and despite their origins in hot countries, they are seemingly able to survive the cold of a British winter. This unimagined success may well be the result of the British gardener's virtual obsession with putting food out for birds in winter. But Josephine Pithon does point out that within their natural range, ring-necked parakeets also occur at high altitude in the Himalayas. "They seem to survive there quite well except for suffering from frostbite on their feet," she says.

These large birds probably have no obvious predators except for the occasional domestic moggy or a stoat that might such as magnies robbing their nests - but they do not appear to be in direct competition with any other bird species, so none is suffering as a result of their

David Gibbons, of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, agrees they might compete for tree nesting holes in gardens, parks and orchards with jackdaws, owls and woodpeckers, but there is no evi-

dence so far of any problem. All the same it is a bird to watch, in more ways than one. For the next few years, at least, make the most of this exotic addition to your garden but do re-

COUNTRY MATTERS



Heard the one about the Pope

and the taxi driver's brother?

DUFF HART-DAVIES

floors and wall-facings were never Pope, or any lesser mortal who inhabited it, would have been atrociously uncomfortable. No provision high up a staircase, and only one bathroom, in which the bath was carved from a single block of stone.

In spite of diligent research, nobody has discovered why, after immense expenditure, Leigh pulled out of the project in the mid 1860s. He himself had been living in another substantial house, The Cottage, on the lip of the valley directly above the mansion, and had no need of an even larger dwelling. He may have run out because his health was failing. He

His son, known as Squire Leigh, left the shell as it was, but his house was used as a store by Amer- architecture. ican and Canadian troops, and in the

was apparently only one lavatory, appointed himself unofficial running costs and repairs. But by far guardian of the property, making heroic efforts to keep the gutters and rainwater pipes clear.

After his death, the house deteriorated fast. In 1987, Stroud District repair - of the grand stone staircase Council bought it for £20,000, and had to spend another £30,000 on emergency repairs to save it from falling down. Today, however, thanks to the vision and tenacity of local volunteers, the mansion is in better shape than it has been for decades.

In February 1988, a few enthusiasts formed a conservation group, and in 1989 this evolved into the Woodchester Mansion Trust, a registered charity that took the house fascination of the mansion is that it the north range in some style and at a rent of £1 a year. The aim from green man (a pagan symbol of was never finished, and that many lived there during the early years of the start has been not to complete this century. Later, the building was the building, but to stabilise the put in place, so that Victorian build-let to a farmer, who kept cattle in the structure and maintain it, both as a ing methods stand revealed as grand rooms on the ground floor. training centre for stone masons and nowhere else. Yet it seems that the During the Second World War, the as a unique exhibit of Victorian

Volunteers began opening the 1950s a physicist and teacher called house to the public on some summer was made for heating the large, high Reginald Kelly set up scientific weekends, and their efforts have rooms except open fireplaces; there laboratories in the cellars. He also raised over £20,000 a year towards

the biggest boost to its conservation came in 1997 in the form of a grant from the National Heritage Lottery Fund, which financed the first major leading up from ground to first floor. This project cost £300,000, and although finance is secure for the next phase of work, on the west range, further substantial sums are needed, not least to salvage the soaring chapel, which at the moment is

packed with scaffolding. The overall

cost of repairs is estimated at £3m. From the stone monkeys which sit on pinnacles of the roof, to the greater horseshoe bats which live in renewal) peering down from the ceiling of the chapel, the mansion remains an astonishing creation; as Winston Churchill said of Russia, an enigma wrapped in a mystery.

Woodchester Mansion Trust, 1 The Old Town Hall, High Street, Stroud, Glos GL5 IAP (01453 750455)

NATURE NOTES THE FACT that the

Guinness Book of Records has authenticated the claim for the largest spider's web ever known in the United Kingdom - a monster network 16ft 8in by 12ft 6in, found in Newent - will bring no comfort to arachnophobes. According to one expert, Paul

Hillyard, our whole culture is peculiarly anti-spider:

whereas other nationalities are indifferent to the creatures, we put them top of our hate list. All spiders are

predators; many species spin their webs in order to trap insects. Others go hunting, and some keep

still, lying in wait till they jump on a victim.

For timid Britons, the main enemy is the housespider, which can grow to three or four inches across. Males die at the end of their first year, but females live up to two years, and can survive the winter. **DUFF HART-DAVIS**

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peculiar fragrance

steals into the

cavernous, empty

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of Woodchester Man-

were used as a laboratory for visit- structure, its bakery, brewery,

ing students, and nobody can make laundry and so on. New research.

is true that nobody has seen the even a refuge for Pope Pius IX, when

imminent death, but the house has house is extraordinary - and here

enough secrets of its own without ex- again, research has changed ideas

ternal apparitions, and the further about how it evolved. Tests have re-

building began to take shape in the commissioned the first sketches

We know for certain that the have been built separately. Leigh

headless ghost that is supposed to the Vatican was threatened by

promenade the valley road, or the Napoleon III in 1862.

sion, the huge country house buried

deep in a valley near Stroud. The

smell, which is like that of mothballs,

it survives at all is strange, for

passed since the cellars of the house

two black dogs said to presage an

researchers delve into its history, the

more curious the story becomes.

out how the smell persists.

is not unpleasant; but the fact that

Feathered foe: the parakect

PERSONAL FINANCE

WITH BARELY four weeks left until Christmas, many of us will be feeling a greater sense of urgency than normal as we go about our weekend shopping. The temptation to spend more than we can afford can be overwhelming – particularly as panic sets in when we find ourselves a day or two away from Christmas with so many presents to buy.

Next week, we will be publishing a number of features on Christmas spending and how to minimise the financial hangover many of us are likely to experience after all the bills come in. In the meantime, it makes sense to bear in mind a few tips on how to manage your money over the next few weeks.

First, rather than buying presents haphazardly, set vourself realistic goals in terms of how much you can afford - not per present, but overali. Include any sum you think necessary for food and drink over the festivities themselves

Then decide how much of that sum should be aliotted between different people you are buying presents for - and work out a basic food and drink budget too.

Finally, calculate now you are going to pay for those presents. Credit cards. particularly some of the cheaper ones, or those with low introductory interest rates, can be good value. But make sure that you pay off any outstanding balances as quickly as possible.

Remember: after you've finished paying off the Christmas bills, then comes the task of finding the money for your summer holidays. Just for once, take it easy.

CALL ME a cynic, but I smell something fishy in the protests by many insurers that the introduction of new NHS charges to be paid in the event of accidents to motorists will mean an increase in premiums,

I should state at the outset that I agree with the industry that the Government's proposed Road Traffic Accidents (NHS) Charges Bill is a shameful back-door attempt to levy more money for the Health Service.



NIC CICUTTI

Do your sums before you splash out on Christmas presents – then start saving for the summer holiday

The Department of Health is clearly calculating that noone will notice if insurers are forced to stump up an extra £160m when motorists receive hospital care. Ultimately, however, the UK's 22 million car owners will have to foot the bill, which averages out at an additional "tax" worth about £8 for every driver.

This is plainly unfair. After all, I see no plans by the Government to charge a "cirrhosis tax" on every pint of beer sold, or a "lung cancer tax" on every packet of fags.

Before anyone points out that cigarette and alcohol duties are already sky-high, so are petrol and vehicle excise duties - this is the only "health tax" specifically related to the exercise of a lawful activity.

At the same time, I'm a little wary of insurers' complaints. They have been looking to raise motor insurance premiums for several years now, largely unsuccessfully to date. I note that the likely increase they are suggesting for an average motorist ranges between £10 and 10 per cent a year - an interesting gap, given that typical fully comprehensive premiums cost £400 or so.

The lesson to be learned, if there is one, is that while the Government is doing us no favours, it may - without realising it, hopefully - be doing the insurance industry a big favour at the same time. Ordinary punters, as always, are the ones who get hurt.

Investing for real life

KAROL WAS born in New Zealand but has lived in the UK for 14 years, and intends to stay here. She is a basic rate taxpayer and has approximately £500 per month of surplus income after accounting for all expenses.

She currently rents a house and would like to buy a property, but feels that now is not a good time as she believes house prices are currently too high,

Karol has £31,000 in a building society account and no other investments apart from 100 Abbey National "windfall" shares. She has no loans or debts. Her employer provides a generous benefits package, including a non-contributory pension scheme, permanent health insurance, death-in-service benefit (life assurance), and private medical

Karol has very little in the way of provisions for retirement. She contributed £100 per month into a personal pension plan for a few years up until about a year ago. This area is Karol's main concern, and as she is well aware that significant commitment will be required to provide a reasonable standard of living in

In addition to retirement, Karol is interested in making her capital work harder for her. She would also like to utilise her surplus income more effectively than just topping up the building society funds.

The adviser: Andy Harris is a director at Maddison Monetary Management, independent financial advisers, 44 High Street, Bagshot, Surrey, GU19 5AP (Freephone 0800

The advice: Karol has recently been advised by a representative of an insurance company to invest into a PEP and a Tessa. Both these investments could make sense. However, she has also been ad-

vised to invest into a Maximum Investment Plan (MIP) with the same company. A MIP is an insurancebased, regular savings plan, with a minimum term of 10 years. This product would not necessarily be appropriate to Karol's needs because a MIP has an element of life assurance built in, and this life assurance obviously has to be paid for (deducted from premiums).

As Karol is single, with no dependants and no liabilities, she has no need for life assurance. She would

FINANCIAL MAKEOVER

NAME KAROL ALBURY **AGE 39 OCCUPATION IT TRAINER**

which is not needed. The charges also tend to be significant on these types of contract.

As far as planning for retirement is concerned, Karol should join her company's pension scheme in April 1999, when her employer allows her to. In addition, she should consider making additional voluntary contributions (called AVCs) or free standing additional contributions (known as FSAVCs) to top up

AVCs are provided by any employer offering a company pension scheme. FSAVCs are available from insurance companies. When deciding on which route to take, a major consideration is charges. FSAVCs generally have higher charges than AVCs, but are less flexible and generally give less investment choice. Karol can contribute to one AVC and/or one FSAVC so a combination could be the solution.

As Karol cannot join her company scheme until April of next year, she is unable to contribute to an AVC or FSAVC until then. She would therefore need to start contributing to a personal pension plan in the meantime. Karol would need to ensure that the pension chosen can be "converted" to a FSAVC next year without further charges

If it is decided to go for an AVC from her employer next year, a single contribution might also be made into a personal pension from Karol's contribute up to 20 per cent of her

earnings in the current tax year. As for investments and Karol's current capital in the bank, the first thing to consider is a "cash reserve", a fund with instant access, and therefore available for any emergencies or opportunities which may arise. In Karol's case, I would suggest at least £3,000.

The next consideration is that Karol does intend to buy a property within approximately one year, a deposit would therefore be required. Karol is comfortable allowing for a 10 per cent deposit on a property therefore be paying for something costing around £80,000. She should



existing capital. She can currently Karol Albury wants to make her money work harder for her

therefore retain £10.000 (this would also cover costs) in her building society account.

As previously mentioned, a PEP makes good sense. Karol can invest £6,000 into a "general" PEP (investing in unit or investment trusts). Consideration would need to be given to the type of fund chosen, as Karol would only be comfortable with a medium-risk one. This also means that the £3,000 which can be placed into a single company PEP would not be appropriate, as investing in any one company is too risky for Karol.

The Tessa also makes sense, es-

costly than Maximum Investment Plans (MIPs), and don't have unnecessary life assurance attached. Karol is very fortunate that her company provides permanent health

ready opened to be fully funded for

the full five-year term. This means

that up to £3,000 can be invested in

year one, followed by up to £1,800 in

the following years, subject to a

£9,000 overall limit. The money she

can set aside from her income could

be invested into unit trusts on a

monthly basis. These would be less

pecially as the rules of the forth-coming ISA will allow any Tessa al-and death-in-service benefits. As and death-in-service benefits. As she has no dependants, there is no need for further life assurance currently. Obviously, this may change when she buys a property, or if her circumstances change.

She may wish to consider implementing some critical illness cover (CIC). This is an insurance which will pay out a lump sum upon diagnosis of one of a number of major illnesses. This is the one area where she is unprotected, and could prove to be useful to her in a way that life cover simply would not be.

Cash in on a cheaper mortgage

- by paying helty penalties and switching

to a lower rate. Mortgage lenders are urging homeowners with high fixed-rate loans to consider paying the price of redeeming their mortgages to take advantage of deals on

much lower rates. According to the lenders, the new deals are so cheap that the benefits of switching can outweigh the cost of paying redemption penalties, valuation fees and legal fees, possibly leaving homeowners with a

substantial gain. In one example, a homeowner half-way through a 10-year fixed-rate £100,000 mortgage with the Royal Bank of Scotland could realise a saving of £6.100 - even after pay-

ing redemption penalties (see example). Nick Deutsch, chief executive of First-

portunity to gain hundreds of pounds each pay off a redemption penalty. But when they set the redemption penalties, some lenders save 1.5 per cent, or £1,500 on £100,000. failed to anticipate how low interest rates

would get. "Some of the redemption penalties set out in earlier years were couched in terms of 6-months' interest, which was inadequate to cater for the present interest rate

First Mortgage calculates that a borrower who now has three years to run on a 7 per cent fixed-rate mortgage, with a redemption penalty of 6 months' interest. can

switch to a three-year fix at 5 per cent. That comes to a saving worth 2 per cent of the mortgage every year. With redemption penalties and re-mortgage costs of 3.5 per cent, the borrower will initially he out of pocket.

But after three years, the borrower will

and remortgage costs, the borrower will

The benefits apply especially to fixedrate loans taken out in 1993, when a spate of long-term fixes began to appear on the market. Many lenders offered fixes at 8 per cent or more in 1993, when interest

rates were believed to have reached their Five years later, long-term interest rates - which determine what rate a lender can offer - have plummeted.

Ray Boulger, of mortgage specialists John Charcol, says: "When it comes to remortgaging for a better rate, some people are deterred by valuation fees and legal fees. However, in many cases it will be worthwhile because rates have come down to so low a point.

"If you are thinking of taking a view as

fix has to run, and how much the redemption penalty is."

The switch is most worthwhile for homeowners with mortgages over £100,000, where the interest rate benefits will be enough to pay the high fixed costs of remortgaging.

Homeowners should think carefully before going ahead. Many of the most recent fixed-rate deals have stiffer redemption penalties than their predecessors. And if valuation and legal fees are not kept to a

minimum, the saving could be trivial. If a fixed rate loan has just a year or two to run, the benefits of the switch are unlikely to pay off the initial cost of re-mortgaging. The switch, in effect, is a medium-term investment: it only works if realised without paying any upfront costs.

it runs for a few years, But the opportunities are there. Home-

THOUSANDS OF home-owners with fixed-rate mortgages may be missing an op-rate mortgage mortgage mortgage. front costs of re-mortgaging when the price of the home has risen.

> Stephen Knight, head of the Independent Mortgage Collection, a network of mortgage brokers, says: "The new fixed rates are significantly cheaper than a few vears ago. It can in some circumstances be particularly worthwhile to pay the redemption penalty if the equity in your house has increased."

> If the value of the home has gone up, lenders may be willing to add the costs to the value of the loan. A price rise increases the equity in the house, and thereby the security of the loan. In these cases, the amount being borrowed will rise and the time taken to pay off the mortgage may increase. But lower payments can then be

HOW IT CAN PAY TO SWITCH LOANS

• April 1994: Homebuyer takes out a £100,000 mortgage with the Royal Bank of Scotland which is fixed at a rate of 8.5 per cent until March 2004.

• December 1998: Homeowner remortgages to a Woolwich "Open Plan" mortgage, fixed at

6.19 per cent to 1 January 2004. Difference in rate: 2,31 per cent, a guaranteed saving in

interest payments over the next five years of £11,203.

Redemption penalty: £4,250.

● Costs of switching: £850. ● Net saving: £11,203 - £4,250 £850 = £6,103.

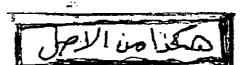
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ase Purchase. Example based on a 36 month agreement for a two-year old BMW 7281 at £26,450 (Incl. Road Fund Licence). Initial deposit of £5,250 (o monthly payment One final payment of £10,518.46 together with a £25 option to purchase fee (incl. VAT). Total amount payable is £30,888.48. Prices are correct at time of going to print and subject to change without not monthly payment of £10,518.46 together with a 229 open to parameter the payment of £10,518.46 together with a 229 open to parameter the payment of £10,518.46 together with a 229 open to parameter the payment of £10,518.46 together with a 229 open to parameter the payment of £10,518.46 together with a 229 open to parameter the payment of £10,518.46 together with a 229 open to parameter the payment of £10,518.46 together with a 229 open to parameter the payment of £10,518.46 together with a 229 open to parameter the payment of £10,518.46 together with a 229 open to parameter the payment of £10,518.46 together with a 229 open to parameter the payment of £10,518.46 together with a 229 open to parameter the payment of £10,518.46 together with a 229 open to payment of £10,518.46 together with a 229 open to payment of £10,518.46 together with a 229 open to payment of £10,518.46 together with a 229 open to payment of £10,518.46 together with a 229 open to payment of £10,518.46 together with a 229 open together wit



WEEKEND REVIEW

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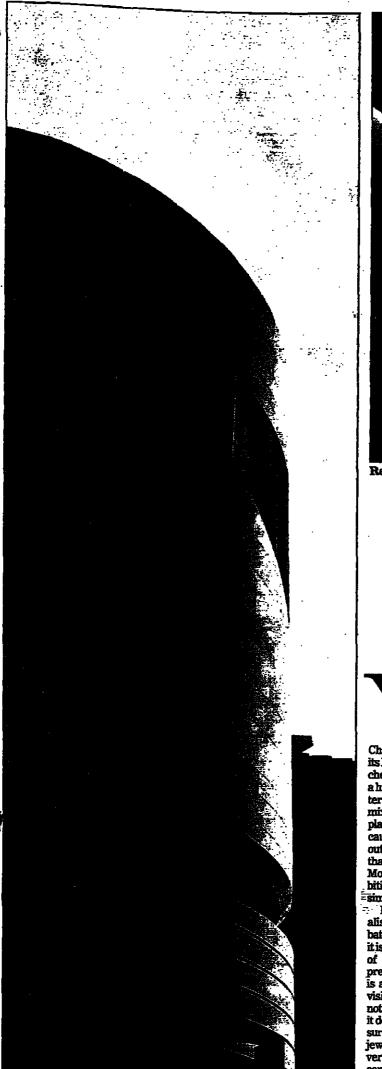
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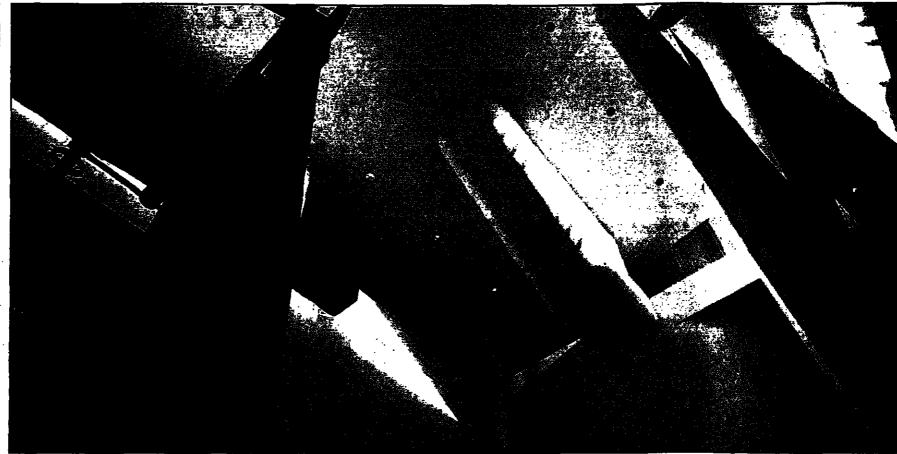
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Reaction to the museum's exterior, left, was mixed. The central galleries, above, are home to the Newcomen engine

Colin McPherson

Tartan but spartan

The modern, cheese-wedge buildings of Scotland's new national museum contrast sharply with historic Edinburgh. But will its contents be as striking? By Sally Varlow

first it was only the outside of the new Museum of Scotland stuck on the corner of a hulk of a hanging garden. Last winter the building was greeted with a cautious approval ("striking") and outright hostility. This winter, now that the inside is almost ready for would be wrong. The public de-Monday's Royal opening, the exhi-

bate. The answers are definitely yes; it is a many splendoured, dreamcoat of stories, each hung about a precious historic object, and there is an outline time-scale that helps visitors get their bearings but does not strait-jacket the displays. And no, it does not let its lovely national treasures – such as Mary Queen of Scots' iewels and the Holyrood chapel silver - get swamped in jingoism or confrontation between oppressive

rulers and emerging national pride. The real issue here, assuming that the collections are properly preserved, is whether people will

ou cannot miss it. At find the museum interesting enough to come back. Dr David Clarke, the head of exhibitions, insists that a visit should be a pleasurable, visual experience, and that it is designed not for specialists but for those with lit-Chambers Street in Edinburgh with the prior knowledge. Despite this libits huge, yellow sandstone tower and eralism, Clarke is a convincing cheese-wedge buildings, topped by purist when it comes to what is on show. Mock-ups and recreations of the past that rely heavily on imagimix of modernist architectural ap-nation are out. For Clarke, they are tantamount to "giving a complete the past was like" which, he explains,

alist-story, is-it-chronological de-show here is based entirely on the the next "epoch", Early People. At objects in Scotland's national collections. But the question for today's visitor is whether the objects' stories can be told vividly enough merely with explanation panels, captions and multi-media interpretation and using barely 30 computers in total around the museum?

Less than three days before the opening, it is still difficult to be sure. The computers are not yet online. The rooftop restaurant is not open. Half the display panels are waiting to be mounted, and the Discovery Centre is not set up. Some impressions are clear, though, and it is Edinburgh Castle that take your

Step inside the round tower reception area and what hits you first is the sequence of spaces. Galleries open one into another, different sizes, different shapes, all with pale walls that are wood-panelled to look like large blocks of stone and inset with deep display cases. Shafts of daylight stream through arrow-slit windows and cascade down from the statement of certainty about what roof lights. There is room to ponder and enjoy every item on display. Start in Beginnings - better

Monday's Royal opening, the exhibitions themselves look set for a serves the truth. ** known as geology - and you can see bitions themselves look set for a similar fate. ** The result is that, at this muse, how Scotland was formed 3 billion unt what you see is what the control of Scotland was formed 3 billion. Forget the does it-tell a nation know, and the story of Scotland was looked before you move on to the arrival of the first settlers, you find prehistoric Scotland prefaced by groups of figures sculpted by Ed-

Up a level to The Kingdom of the Scots, 1100 to 1707AD, when Scotland was a nation in its own right, and you come to some of the most precious medieval and Renaissance relics exquisite miniature portraits, church silver. Bonnie Prince Charlie's sword and "targe" (shield) and the treasured 8th-century Monvmusk reliquary. Beneath the tiny, portable shrine and beside its solemn pedigree is a caption writadvisory group: "I can hardly believe that it held a bone of St Columba." Another young writer's verdict

sits beside the Ellesmere locomosteam loco. Standing near the huge Newcomen engine built into the centre of the museum's huge central galleries, it is dedicated to the role Scots people played in commerce, industry and science in the 18th and 19th centuries.

that one, but won a dedicated chil- is another matter. dren's hands-on centre in what should have been the temporary exhibition gallery.

As a result the Twentieth Century gallery, on the top floor, is the only temporary exhibition. Due to change after three years, it is a hotchpotch of objects chosen by Scots people and personalities as items that have had most impact on life in Scotland this century. Tony Blair's suggestion was an electric guitar. Others went for televisions, Thermos flasks and favourite toys

Although the idea is fun, somehow it feels like a lightweight solution that

not just the panoramic views of ten by one of the museum's junior has floated up to the top of the building, not a proper attempt to address current issues. It may seem less frothy when the computerised bank of personal reasons and recollections tive, Scotland's oldest surviving goes live next week. In fact, the museum will not be fully up-and-running, with free guided tours, children's workshops, trails and activities, until January, which is probably the time to judge it.

Meanwhile, though, they could do with a bit more interactive inter-Thanks to the 12-member Junior pretation. Dr Clarke looks right Board, set up three years ago with when he suggests that "objects 9-to 12-year-olds drawn from all over open windows on the past more Scotland, the museum also has a vividly than anything else". As for the Discovery Centre. What the group modernist architecture: it works really really wanted was "dark brilliantly from the inside and the top rides", Dr Clarke admits. They lost but whether it is in the right location

> The New Museum of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh (0131-247 4219), will open daily from December 1 from Monday to Saturday between 10am and 5pm (Sundays from 12noon to 5pm and on Tuesdays until 8pm). Admission is £3 (£5 for a season ticket) for adults, £1.50 (£2.50 for a season ticket) for students, senior citizens and the unemployed, and £9 for a family season ticket. Tickets are also valid for the Royal Museum next door, which houses Scotland's international collections.

IF YOU run a tourist attraction, you know you've made it when Blue Peter makes a film about it. The BBC's children's magazine programme bestowed this accolade on one of the world's finest train rides, the Chihuahua al Pacifico, which runs from northern Mexico down to the Pacific Ocean through an utterly implausible sequence of tunnels,

bridges and loops. Marguerite Cullen has long been a fan (of the railway, though no doubt of Blue Peter as well) and keeps this column updated on developments.

The omens this autumn look bleak: "Helicopter flights are now passing the hotel, which obviously spoils the peace and quiet. The helicopter ride looked fantastic on Blue Peter, but



SIMON CALDER

A Swedish traveller who would not stop videoing the proceedings was shot for his troubles

obviously detracted from the atmosphere. The road to Divisadero (the mid-point, where trains pause for a spectacular

view of the Copper Canyon) is now almost complete, enabling coachloads of tourists easy access to the now-enlarged hotel. Independent travellers are not so warmly welcomed."

You can say that again. Ms Cullen reports a rumour that the train had been held up, and all the passengers robbed at gunpoint. "A Swedish traveller. who would not stop videoing the proceedings, was shot for his troubles."

PERHAPS WISELY, Keith Miller of Edinburgh chose to book his wife and two children on a flight to Copenhagen rather than Mexico, using frequent-flyer points. "Subsequently, we had to cancel the flights." Mr Miller understands that he loses the

points, but is concerned about the £40 in Air Passenger Duty that he paid: "It does seem rather unfair to be charged travel

tax when you haven't travelled." It does, indeed. Who keeps the money, the tax collector or the airline? Either way, the system seems unfair.

DURING THE World Travel Market earlier this month, I asked Serbia's minister of tourism, Slobodan Celovic, about the morality of pushing the republic as a holiday destination

A verbatim transcript of that discussion. I asked: "There are still European sanctions in force against Serbia. Is it really appropriate for you to come here to promote Serbia as a destination when the European

Union feels there are problems yet to be resolved? Mr Celovic replied: "They are

the reasons for promotion. The problems are maybe reasons to promote something. If there were not any problems, there wouldn't be any need to promote. I have to tell you something. Tourism is the fastest and most developing part of the economy, and probably the most profitable part of the economy. But at the same time, tourism puts people together, and tourism actually facilitates and makes people know other cultures, and tourism helps create opportunities for friendship amongst people."

YOU CAN insure most of the cost of a holiday against cancellation – but, says Eve Marles, make sure

the policy covers you against having to give evidence in court: "I recently had to cancel a holiday at short notice when I was summoned to appear as a witness. I was relieved when, on checking my policy, I found that I was covered for this eventuality. I suggest that cover for being asked to appear as a witness or juror is pretty important."

THERE IS no insurance, however, against an inept telephone information line, "I know that National Tourist Offices are not what they used to be," writes SC Pearce of Maidstone, "but I had not realised how low they could sink until this afternoon when I rang the Belgian tourist office (or at least its Flemish component, which recently split from the

of brochures about Bruges and Ypres. "It was an 0891 number, so I was not surprised to be told that the charge would be 50p a minute. I then heard a discourse on the number being only for brochures; there were other numbers that I should ring if I had other needs. I held on for the first 50p worth while I was given a list of these other numbers. Then I was told that I was to hear a list of brochures and I was to say "Yes" whenever there was one I wanted. Otherwise I was to say nothing. Then followed a question 'Are you a journalist or a travel agent?' Since the answer was 'No', I remained silent, but it was assumed that the answer must have been 'Yes' and another rigmarole started, so I hung up.'

French-speaking part) in search

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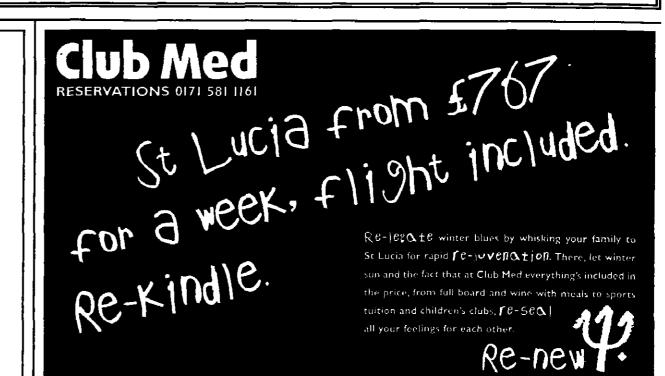
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Hidden treasure in a Spanish suburb.

Key moments of Spain's history were played out at Alcalá de Henares. By **Annie Bennett**

bout 15 miles east of Madrid, a dull halfhour bus ride along the equivalent of the M4 corridor, is Alcala le Henares, once a great cultural centre with one of the most important universities in Europe. Key events in Spain's history took place in its lavish Renaissance buildings.

When I was there, the tourist office was closed. Its 17th-century premises were being restored, and Juan Carlos, whose job it was to deal with the thin trickle of visitors, had been temporarily re-housed behind a small desk in the corner of an adjacent historic building, which had already been done up and was now an exhibition centre.

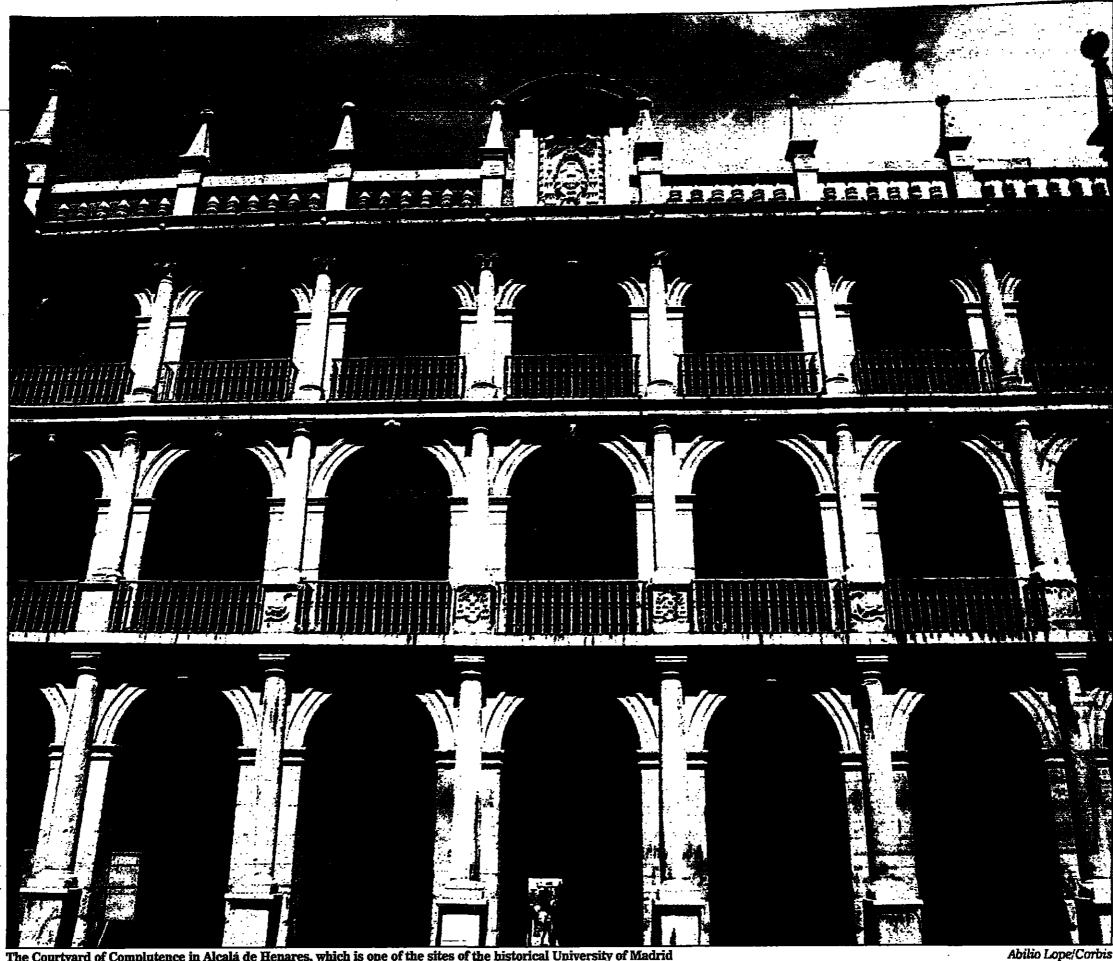
Miguel de Cervantes, Spain's greatest writer, was born here, as was Catherine of Aragon. In 1486, when Columbus was trying to get backing for his expedition, he came here to meet Queen Isabella at the archbishop's opulent palace. A former mansion is the headquarters of the Cervantes Institute, the worldwide organisation to promote the Spanish language. Spain's most prestigious literary prize, the Premio Cervantes, is awarded in the university's great hall.

Visitors today can stroll along the charming, colonnaded high street, gaze up at storks nesting in the belfries, drink at one of the numerous student bars and eat at one of several smart restaurants. As if that were not enough, restoration work is nearing completion on the Teatro Cervantes, the only theatre in Europe to have been almost continually in use for 400 years.

You might think all this would guarantee busloads of tourists for Juan Carlos to deal with. But no, the most he could hope for was a couple of dozen visitors at weekends. For somewhere with such a rich heritage, it is amazingly low-key. There are no tourist shops and very few hotels. The extensive restoration programme - dilapidated colleges, convents and mansions have been sympathetically revamped to serve a variety of useful civic, educational improving conditions for the locals

rather than attracting tourists. The university was founded in 1499 by Cardinal Cisneros, head of the Spanish church and confessor to Queen Isabella. Its greatest period of eminence was in the 17th century, when it comprised 40 colleges, attended by numerous luminaries of Spain's Golden Age, including Quevedo and Lope de Vega.

Its prestige began to wane in the 18th century, culminating with the transfer of the institution to Madrid in 1836. It was re-established in



and cultural purposes - is aimed at The Courtward of Complutence in Alcalá de Henares, which is one of the sites of the historical University of Madrid

1977, and has been slowly expand-

The main building has a magnificent Renaissance façade by Rodrigo Gil de Hontanon, architect of the cathedrals of Salamanca and Segovia. Guided tours are provided by the students, who lead you through a series of courtyards, the third of which is called the Patio Trilingue, after the schools of Latin, Greek and Hebrew that originally formed three of its sides. The fourth side was a student hostelry, and is

now a renowned restaurant. The lic as both a museum and theatre. main hall and chapel have remark-able Mudéjar coffered ceilings.

Cervantes was born in October 1547, on the corner of Calle Mayor and Calle Imagen. The Cervantes Museum, which recreates a typical house of the time, now stands there.

The Teatro Cervantes is currently concealed behind a nondescript 20th century façade. It will, however, be a few months yet before the scaffolding is removed and its intriguing interior is opened to the pub-

Starting off as a corrol de comedias (courtyard playhouse), where plays by Calderón de la Barca and Lope de Vega were performed, it retains its original layout and cobbled stone floor. Also still surviving are

the roof, added in 1785, and the el-

liptical tiered boxes installed in 1830. Converted into a cinema in the Seventies, it closed down soon after. The discovery of the structure's unique heritage was made in 1980 by three curious students who went in

with torches and peeled back the layers to reveal the various stages of its past. Unlike its counterpart in Almagro in La Mancha, or the Globe in London, which are both reconstructions, the Cervantes is authentic evidence of four centuries of theatrical history.

Already attracting international attention, perhaps this substantial addition to Alcala's heritage will tempt a few more people to a town that for too long has been written off as a dowdy suburb of Madrid.

FACT FILE

GETTING THERE: Iberia (0171-830 0011) from London to Madrid for as little as £93. Or British Airways (0345 222111), Debonair (0541 500300) and easyJet (0990 292929). From central Madrid Continental Auto runs buses

every 30 minutes from Avenida



de America. Fare £2.50. Staying: Hotel el Bedel (3-star, 00 \$4 91 889 3700), Plaza de San Diego 6. Hostal Miguel de Cervantes (2-star 00 34 91 883 1277), Calle Imagen 12. Hostal Don

Juan (2-star, 00 34 91 883 3484), Calle Don Juan 1.

Home to the salty-tanged sister of sherry

When the Spanish fancy a break they amble down to Sanlucar de Barrameda for a rest and a drop of manzanilla. By Anthony McDonald

SATED WITH the splendours of Seville? It seems improbable. Yet it must sometimes happen to the people who live there, so where do they go to get away from it all? And what if you, too, feel like a holiday in southern

Spain without the clamour of the Costa del Sol?

One answer is Sanlucar de Barrameda, a town which lies about 60 miles south-west of Seville at the mouth of the Guadalquivir river. Columbus,

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No one gives you so much cover for so little. Magellan and Pisarro all set sail from here, but now it is sleepy. Wine lovers will already know the town as the home of manzanilla, the salty-tanged sister

of fino sherry. If you don't want to drive (I didn't) there is a bus service every hour or two from Seville. It leaves from the San Sebastian bus station, takes two hours and deposits you in a tumble-

down but pretty square. In two minutes you will be in the Plaza del Cabildo, the town's main square. It is a handsome place, full of cafés and empty of traffic. From here, a left turn takes you straight down to the waterfront via a

palm-lined sandy paseo as broad and straight as an airport runway, taking you past the tourist office as you go. A much shorter walk to the right takes you straight to the Hostal la Blanca Paloma in Plaza de San Roque, where the smiling señora will let vou have her best room (with a shared but spotless bathroom) for the equivalent of £17 a night.

Sanlucar is set exactly where the river meets the Atlantic. The beach is long and lined with silver sand and the high water line is a row of pearly oyster shells. Fishing boats chug up and down and at the top of the tide, container

ships glide serenely past, then disappear surreally among the fields and pine trees as they make their winding way up-

river to Seville. Although it has 60,000 inhabitants, Sanlucar still has a small-town feel. It is generally old and picturesque but - reassuringly perhaps, if you have just come from Seville - it contains no gems of art and architecture that it would be criminal to miss. You are here for a rest, remember, so drift around and enjoy what you see and smell. That aroma of baked bread and brandy is manzanilla being made and half the buildings in Sanlucar

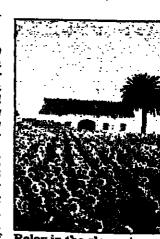
are bodegas that are often open to the public.

As most of the holidaymakers here are Spanish, it makes sense to adopt Spanish eating times. For breakfast, at around 10am, try hot chocolate with churros, or trickle olive oil onto your tostada instead of butter. Lunch is to be enjoyed around 2pm (don't forget the siesta) and don't go looking for an aperitif much before eight; bars that open before then cater mainly for drunks.

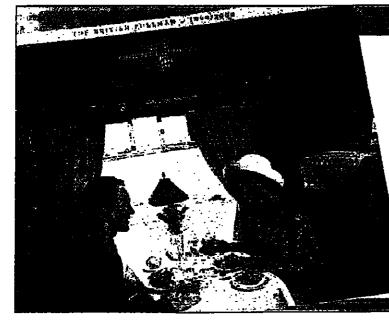
Serious eating begins at 9pm. Investigate the Bajo de Guia at the eastern end of the riverfront. This is a line of restaurants specialising in fish turn to the Plaza del Cabildo.

Getting there: Iberia (0171-830 0011) has flights from London to Seville before 10 December for £162 including tax or, if you book before 15 December and spend at least one Saturday night there, British Airways (0345 222111) has a fare for £128.30 including tax.

Accommodation: The Hostal La Blanca Paloma (00 34 956 363644) has double rooms for around £14 per night or contact the Sanlucar de Barrameda Tourist Information Office on 00 34 956 366110 for a list of hotels in the town



Relax in the sleepy town of Sanjucar

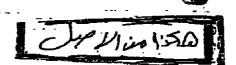


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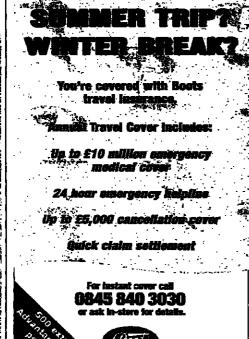
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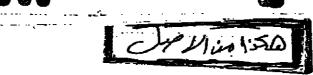
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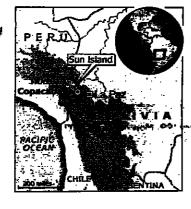
umbrella short of a cocktail

Copacabana this may be, but unlike its Brazilian sister, the strongest drink on the shores of Lake Titicaca is coca tea. By Nicola Barranger

people believe, is born of the earth, the earth gives us food and food gives us life. If you want a good life, you must give thanks to the Mother Earth, Pachamama

It's a simple, no-nonsense belief that would secure many an environmentalist's campaign in the West. Yet for the deeply religious Aymaras, respect for the land has been part of the local culture for millennia. Looking after her is a duty from which no one shirks, as the Earth carnot be replaced.

You feel at one with Pachamama at the lake on top of the world: Lake Titicaca. At 3,856 metres, the brilliant sunshine here lends the world a piercing light which takes your breath away – although some may blame this on a lack of oxygen. For



part of Andean religious life. Visitors are told that if an unfortunate fisherman is lost in the icy waters, the locals may do a cursory search, shrug their shoulders and simply offer him up as a sacrifice to Pachamama.

And there are plenty of opportunities to give thanks to Pachamama, particularly at Sun Island in the middle of the lake. Ceremonies here are conducted by a priest burning coca leaves, along with small icons each signifying good health, crops or perhaps relationships. Sun Island has strong religious associations, since it was here that the first Inca couple is believed to have lived.

According to legend, the creator god, Vîracocha, sent his children, Manco Kapac and Mama Ocilo, to be the first couple of the Inca civilisation. The island has therefore been a place of pilgrimage for centuries. The most impressive ruins are towards the north of the island, but most visitors are first encouraged up the Inca steps to drink from the Fountain of Eternal Youth. Climbing at that altitude, you might feel that this was a good joke on the part of he early Incas.

Lake Titicaca is, in fact, two sep-Tiquina. Sun Island is in the larger Lake Chucuito and can easily be reached by boat or catamaran, usually from Copacabana. Although the name Copacabana may con-



The lake on top of the world: for at least 2,000 years the lake has been part of Andean religious life

Nicola Barranger

Copacabana. It is also another pilgrim destination thanks to the Vir-

When the black, wooden Madonna was presented to the town at some time in the 16th century, miracles began to occur, ever since. Bolivians have been making lavish and expensive offerings of jewels and other valuables to her. This is just one of many examples of Christianity being embraced alongside the ancient religions.

The dazzling marble cathedral in arate lakes divided by the Straits of which the Madonna presides is well worth a visit, if only to gasp at the expense while outside beggars sit at aeatly spaced intervals. Also outside, there may well be a line of cars decked in banners, streamers and Rio de Janeiro, this one, Bolivians local priest. It's a sort of spiritual prosperity in your home. will have you know, is the original insurance policy and, judging by the

roads in Bolivia, maybe that's not a

Ninety-five per cent of the Bolivian population is said to be Roman Catholic, yet an undisclosed number also practise local traditional customs which are so much engrained into the culture that the Church probably has no option but to ignore them. It's not only the indigenous population who uphold these ancient beliefs. Young, professional mestizos (those with mixed Spanish blood) can also be seen making offerings to Pachamama. "I am building an extension to my house," one guide

told us. "So I must go to the witches' market to buy a llama foetns." The unborn Ilama, he explained, is

market in La Paz at dusk, you might be forgiven for thinking that these 10-inch desiccated foetuses are simply cheap, plastic reproductions. Come back in daylight to see that these are no mass-produced trinkets, but the real thing.

If you visit the market towards the end of January, you may see people buying offerings for Ekeko. He is the smiling Aymara, god of abundance and good fortune. You want a car? Then you need to buy a miniature toy version for your (usually plaster of Paris) Ekeko statue. Perhaps you need a new refrigerator or television - everything can be bought in miniature at the market. These offerings are not cheap, but once you considered an essential offering to have collected them, the idea is that country, especially when compared fure to La Paz via Sao Paolo with jure up golden beaches in Brazil's balloons, waiting to be blessed by the Pachamama if you want health and you then go to the local Aymara with Peru. "Do you know why our Varig is £723 plus taxes. To reach

real thing (car, refrigerator, television) will be yours. How much of this stems from fervent religious belief, and how much simply from tradition,

What is quite apparent, mean-while, is the increasing number of Western tourists making their way into Bolivia. So what do local people make of them? Well, they don't go down well when it come to cameras being flashed around. Locals are less than happy about being photographed and if you catch someone's eye through your lens, expect a frown sooner than a smile.

Yet people aren't unfriendly, and contrary to what many travellers expect, Bolivia is generally a safe rosperity in your home. priest who will bless your Ekeko. crime rates are so low?" joked one Copacabana and Lake Titicaca. If you happen upon the witches' Within a year, it's believed that the local resident. "All our criminals are there are frequent buses

in the government." There seems no embarrassment about telling visitors that Bolivia is a country very rich in natural wealth but with a very corrupt system. Yet the people seem to accept the resulting poverty with resigned stoicism. Tourism is an ideal opportunity to improve the economy. However, locals may feel that one invasion was quite enough.

There are no direct flights from Britain to the Bolivian capital, La Paz. Nicola Barranger paid just over £600 on the Brazilian airline Varia, via Sao Paulo, booked through the Manchester office of Journey Latin America (0161-832 1441). The off-season

A likely story: free travel from Heathrow

Possible, but not by air. If you are under 16, and travelling with an adult, then from next Friday and through the Christmas holidays, you can ride the Heathrow Express train to

Paddington station for nothing. Even if you are either over 16. or you wish to travel at other times, a free ride on the new train is still feasible. BAA, which invested £450m in the line, is now promoting it as the main link between Terminal Four and the other three Terminals in the central area. At five minutes, it is much faster than the courtesy

bus, and cheaper than the Tube. It is possible to go further for free, thanks to the new British Airways-sponsored bus service,

which began this month. Linking Hatton Cross underground station and Terminal Four with British Airways' new Waterside business centre, the Compass Centre and the airport's Central Terminal Area, bus route H30 called "Airport Connect" - will

run every day of the week and offer free travel to everyone. Bob Preston, who worked on the scheme for British Airways, said: "This will be the only London Transport service which is entirely free to everyone over

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Trouble spots Wanderlust magazine (01753

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NEWS FROM THE TRAVEL WORLD

620426) was published yesterday. In her regular health feature, Dr Jane Wilson Howarth addresses a critical question:

What kills travellers? It may be comforting to know that, of travellers who die abroad, few (less than 1 per cent) succumb to infectious disease. What gets us, in roughly equal proportions, are (a) accidents and (b) diseases that would have struck anyway (especially heart disease).

There are lots of deaths on the roads, for example, and more risks are taken, it seems, when we are away from home. People are able to get away with drink

driving, so they do. Where there are no seat-belt or motorcyclehelmet laws people don't bother to use them. Then there are recreational drugs of the legal (eg alcohol) and illegal varieties to enjoy, but these reduce inhibitions and lead to accidents

such as drowning. And there are sexual risks: of HIV infections acquired heterosexually, about half are caught abroad; sexual adventures are an enticing extra to a trip away, but play safe."

You can take a break in Amsterdam by air for less than £100 - if you drink enough lager. A Dutch airline and brewery have teamed up to offer the short-break deal of the year. Send in the special ring-pulls from 12 half-litre cans of Groisch lager, pay £99 per person based on two sharing, and you can get flights from your local airport, a one-night stay in a three-star hotel, and a day's

Only 5,000 packages are on offer, and the dates are specific: the first two weeks of December, then from 4-11 and 14-28 February. The lager will cost you around £15 (a four-pack at Tesco

is currently £4.99). For comparison, Magic Cities (0181-741 4442) has one-night packages in Amsterdam for £107, so even if you pour the lager away you'll still save money

True or false? Airlines in the United States are friendlier. This is debatable, as anyone who has flown across the Atlantic on a crammed 767 in the week before Christmas will testify.

Many travellers regard the service aboard British Airways and Virgin Atlantic as a class above most US rivals. So is a new regulation for US airlines, whereby passengers are asked for their first names, a move to become more customer-friendly?

"No," says one transatiantic

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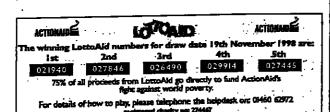
travel agent emphatically, "It's a security precaution."

From next March the US authorities will be increasing the precision of information about travellers, by insisting on having full first names on air tickets. The move is being sold as an enhancement of passenger safety, but there is a downside.

The addition of a full first name enhances the potential for error (having once travelled from Miami to Atlanta using a boarding card which described me as "Sandra Calderon", I can confirm this). It could also add to airport delays, "When you're checking in 400 people, the last thing you need is a dispute about how a first name is spelt," says the travel agent.

SIMON CALDER

P&O 🚬



JASPER REES

'Jim Davidson may be nursing a grudge that he was not in Best of British. The series celebrated cockneys, it celebrated comedians but it drew the line at cockney comedians'

TELEVISION REVIEW, PAGE 32

THE RED ARROW EXPRESS

Until recently it used to take a minimum of 60 PEKING TO HONG KONG hours to travel from Hong Kong to Peking by train involving many tiresome changes and endless border formalities. Now the Chinese have introduced a new 'through' express train with modern facilities including restaurant cars and full air-conditionincluding restaurant cars and nutl air-condition-ing, and the journey now takes just one day and night to complete. The journey is undertaken mostly during the daylight hours affording the traveller a glimpse of China at eye level from the comfort of a first class or deluxe compartment window where a timeless scenery unfolds revealing terraced paddy Sable by buttling modern cities. interest scattery unions revealing threates party fields to bustling modern cities. We have combined it with a three-night stay at the Xiyuan Hotel Peking and three nights at the 4-star City Carden Hotel on Hong Kong.

ITINERARY IN BRIEF

The journey commences with a direct non-stop flight to Peking with British Airways followed by 3 nights at the Xiyuan Hotel. A visit to the Great Wall and Ming Tombs is included as well as many optional visits being available. On Day 5 depart by through train' to Kowloon arriving the next day in the afternoon for 3 nights at the City Garden Hotel Hong Kong. Return direct to London on Day 9. Inchesives: all transportation, room and breakfast in Peking, room only in Hong Kong, 2-berth deluxe compartment or first class 4-

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NEW FILMS

IF ONLY (15) Director: Mana Ripoll Starring: Douglas Henshall Henshall stars as a dumped boyfriend who is transported back in time by some mysterious Spanish dustmen. As dopey as it sounds, but a lot less fun. Countrywide

THE NEGOTIATOR (15)

Director: F Gary Gray Starring: Samuel L Jackson, Kevin Spacey. JT Walsh

Two of modern cinema's favourites go head to head in Gray's thrilling drama about a negotiator forced to kick up a hostage situation of his own. Countryppide

THE SLUMS OF BEVERLY HILLS (15)

Director: Tamara Jenkins Starring: Alan Arkin An unsentimental take on the trials of adolescence. this sharp black comedy follows Vivian Abramowitz as she grows up poor in 1970s LA.

OUT OF SIGHT (15) Director: Stephen Soderbergh

Limited Release

Starring: George Clooney See The Independent Recommends, right Countrywide

VICTORY (15) Director: Mark Peploe

Starring: Willern Dalce, Irene Jacob, Sam Neill

This Conrad adaptation takes us to a sleazy hotel in the South Seas where well-known character actors (Simon Callow, Bill Paterson, etc) favour extravagant facial hair, and the mid-price stars (Jacob, Neill, Dafoe) do some safe, literary acting. Limited Release

THE WISDOM OF CROCODILES (15) Director: Po Chih Leong

Starring: Jude Law, Elina Lowensohn, Timothy Spall

Law stars as a contemporary vampire, who wines and dines his victims. A well-intentioned attempt to give an adult twist to a genre that's principally an adolescent enthusiasm is undone by a script that can't tell the difference between sophistication and pretentious rambling. Limited Release

Matthew Sweet

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS



Film Liese Spencer

AMERICAN DIRECTOR Todd Haynes swaps the etiolated formalism of Safe for sequins, glitter and musical numbers in Velvet Goldmine, his ravishing paean to the glam-rock scene of the 1970s. Borrowing its structure from Citizen Kane, this fake biopic sees journalist Christian Bale investigating the rise and fall of rock god Brian Slade (Jonathan Rhys-Myers), and reliving a cultural moment when gender-bending

personal experimentation seemed to herald a wider cultural liberation. On general release

Novelist Elmore Leonard delights in depicting the morally messy lives of people who have made all the wrong decisions. Director Steven Soderbergh, Jennifer Lopez and George Clooney know all about that, take Soderburgh's Kafka, Lopez's Anaconda or Clooney's Peacemaker. Luckily, all three combine to devastating effect in the latest Leonard adaptation, Out of Sight (above). Droll and drop-dead sexy, this laidback chase movie sees Lopez's federal marshal pursuing Clooney's world-weary bank robber. Watch them smoulder. On general release

Theatre Dominic Cavendish

ACCORDING TO the flyers, Dirty Work begins with "five nuclear explosions" and is "about Language. Memory. Bad Luck Love. And Human Forgetting." No one could accuse the Sheffield-based company Forced Entertainment of lacking ambition - their devised projects seek to do nothing less than create a new theatrical vocabulary: one that articulates modern, urban experience. Many believe they are succeeding - the fractured anti-show Showtime (1996) earned them a wider following, which will no doubt be playing dirty to get a look at this, their 17th work,

Arnolfini, Bristol (0117-929 9191) 8pm At last, after a surfeit of Seventies-revival musicals, comes Gold! from Hull Truck - a tale of five college pals who form a tribute band to recreate their student days under middle-era Thatcher. There is very little in the way of dialogue, which reduces the likelihood of this medicystuffed nostalgia night getting too mawkish. The critics have yet to pass judgment, but Gary Kemp (above) of Spandau Ballet loves it, apparently. Hull Truck Theotre, Spring St, Hull (01482 323638) 8pm

GENERAL RELEASE

ANGEL SHARKS (MARIE BAIE DES ANGES) (15) ELIZABETH (15) Manuel Pradal's debut feature has seductive surface qualities and its disjointed scenes of adolescent story of a female figurehead struggling to gain decadence are engaging. But it's empty, pretentious stuff, a triumph of form over content.

If nothing else, this is surely the most unlikely Woody THE EXORCIST (25TH ANNIVERSARY Allen movie we will ever see. The nerd icon allegedly re-wrote the bulk of his dialogue to provide the voice of worker-ant "Z", who breaks out when he falls in with the regal Princess Bala (Sharon Stone).

A techno soundtrack bumps and grinds behind this arcade-game thriller about a New York vampire-killer tackling a power-crazed bloodsucker.

DEAD MAN'S CURVE (15)

terrible experiences at university. All the students at brings Hunter S Thompson to pigeon-toed life. his American college are trying to kill each other, because of a regulation which awards A grades to roommates of suicides. Though not as nasty as Screem, it King Vidor's overdesigned melodrama, in which a delivers a respectable quota of drive-in shocks.

Shekhar Kapur's follow-up to Bondit Queen is the purchase in a male world. But he largely neglects the opportunities for fun in a story of independence triumphing over cruelty.

REPELEASE) (18)

The Exorcist is a creature conditioned by rumour and hearsay, its legend swelling in the 25 years since its release. But Friedkin's seminal horror is still efficiently terrifying. The chill atmosphere clings to the skin throughout

FEAR AND LOATHING IN LAS VEGAS (18)

Terry Gilliam's adaptation tilts at Ralph Steadman cartoonery for its tale of a drug-fuelled assignment. Incident and caricature are substituted for plot and Writer-director Dan Rosen must have had some character. The one stand-out is Johnny Depp - who

THE FOUNTAINHEAD (PG)

miscast Gary Cooper stars as an architect who takes dangerous old-school pro.

on Raymond Massey's evil corporate boss. It LES MISERABLES (12) constructs a bizarre moral message: that we should Bille August turns Hugo's novel into an enormous film celebrate the young entrepreneur as a Nietzschean and it's as traditional as literary adaptations come. It's superman.

HENRY FOOL (18)

Hal Hartley's marvellously skewed fable traces the fate of a piece of erotic verse which springs from the head of a lowly garbage man (James Urbaniak). Hartley's most humane and heartfelt film to date.

INSOMNIA (18)

Dubbed a "film blanc" by its creator, Insomnia MY NAME IS JOE (15) a teenager's murder.

LOCK, STOCK AND TWO SMOKING BARRELS (18)

Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels' defining characteristic is its resilient morality. The picture is peopled by thugs, both amateur and professional.

earnest, deferential and almost humourless.

In Disney's animated feature, a girl disguises herself as a soldier to spare her father from combat. It's got it all: a pro-active heroine; honour and nobility. It's also one of the most visually innovative movies that Disney has ever made.

transplants noir stylistics to the landscape of Norway. Ken Loach's solid social-realist drama tells the Its cop hero drifts into a mental meltdown as he probes tale of Joe (Peter Mullan), a recovering alcoholic torn between his old life and his new. My Name is Joe brilliantly spotlights the hopes and thwarted ambitions of a Britain caught below the poverty line.

> RONIN (15) John Frankenheimer's 40 years as a director lend an

air of knackered resignation to his latest movie, a tired Young Eddy falls into the former category; but espionage thriller. As the leader of the gang, Robert Hatchet Harry, to whom he owes £500,000, is a De Niro does his blank-faced, gristle-chewing act. As dull as ditchwater.

ROUNDER\$ (15)

John Dahl's poker-club thriller is not a great comeback for the director of The Last Seduction, but it is certainly an improvement on Unforgettable. Its main problem is Matt Damon, who is comprehensively outacted by almost everyone else in the movie.

THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT MARY (15) Ben Stiller, Cameron Diaz, Matt Dillon and Lee Evans star in this latest comedy from the tasteless

writer-director team of Peter and Bobby Furrelly (previous crimes against humanity include Dumb and Dumber and Kingpin). However, the film is basically a soft-centred romantic comedy of the kind that drifts out of Hollywood on a regular basis.

THE TRUMAN SHOW (PG) Peter Weir's much-heralded comedy about a man

(played by Jim Carrey) who discovers that his whole existence has been televised since birth and broadcast to the world. The film is very funny, due more to Andrew Niccol's script rather than its star's presence.

VELVET GOLDMINE (18) Sec The Independent recommends, above

CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

ABERDEEN

ODEON (08705-050007); Antz (PG): Ulee's Gold (15); Mulan (U); There's Something About Mary (15); Rush Hour (15); If Only (15); Blade (18); Ronin (15); Le Bossu (15); Out of Sight (15); Payunder (15)

VIRGIN (0541-202050); Out of Sight (15); The Truman Show (PG); Antz (PG); Snake Eyes (15); Ronin (15); There's Something About Mary (15); The General (15); Godzilla (PG); Mulan (U); Blade (18); My Name is Joe (15); Rounders (15); Rush Hour (15); The Negotiator

BIRMINGHAM

MAC (0121-440 3838); La Vie Revée des Anges (18); The Truman Show (PG)

ODEON (08705-050007); If Only (15); The Land Girls (12); Ronin (15); Cabbage Patch: Animation Festival (NC); Antz (PG): Rounders (15); Snake Eyes (15); Rush Hour (15); The Exercise (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18); Out of Sight (15); Blade (18); The Avengers (12); Mulan (U); Small Soldiers (PG)

ARCADIAN CENTRE VIRGIN (0541-555177); Antz (PG); The Negotiator (15); Siums of Beverly Hills (15); Ronin (15): The Truman Show (PG); There's Something About Mary (15): Blade (18): Mulan (U); Dead Man's Curve (15); Out of Sight (15); Rounders (15); Rush Hour (15); The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rere-lease) (18); Small Soldiers (PG)

GREAT PARK VIRGIN (0121-453 0465): Godzilla (PG): If Only (15); Rush Hour (15); The Borrowers (U); Saving Private Ryan (15); Antz (PG); Out of Sight (15); My Name is Joe (15); Mulan (U); Hope Floats (PG): Small Soldiers (PG): Blade (18): Snake Eyes (15); There's Something About Mary (15); Les Misérables (12): The Negotiator (15); Dr Dolittle (PG): The Truman Show (PG): Ronin (15):

ODEON (08705-050007); Antz (PG); Breakdown (15); Blade (18); Ronin (15); Out of Sight (15); Mulan (U)

PRIESTLEY CENTRE FOR THE ARTS (01274-820666); The Good Companions (PG); 1 Bought a Vampire Motorcycle (18); Kundun (12); Asian Film (NC); Fun-ny Games (18); The Governess (15)

WARNER VILLAGE (0161-766 2440); The Negotiator (15); Small Soldiers (PG); Jack-le Chan Double-Bill (18); The Soldier (Asian Film) (NC): Lock, Stock & Two smoking Barrels (18): Les Miserables (12): The Truman Show (PG): Rush Hour (15); There's Something About Mary (15); Antz (PG); Doll Sajake Rakhna (NC); Left Luggage (PG): The Exordst (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): Rounders (15); Lost in Space (PG): The Land Girls (12): Blade (18); Elizabeth (15); Out of Sig (15): Mulan (U): If Only (15): Ronin (15)

ODEON (01244-343216); Ronin (15);

Home Alone 3 (PG); MouseHunt (PG); If Only (15); Mulan (U); Rush Hour (15); Antz (PG): Out of Sight (15); Elizabeth

VIRGIN (0541-555 158); Ronin (15); Mulan (U); The Negotiator (15); Small Soldiers (PG); Antz (PG); Out of Sight (15); The Exercist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18); Rush Hour (15); Blade (18): Godzilla (PG)

UCT (0990-888990); Small Soldiers (PG); Snake Eves (15); Dr Dolittle (PG); Out of Sight (15); Doli Sajake Rakhna (NC); If Only (15): Saving Private Ryan (15): Ronin (15): Blade (18); Rush Hour (15): About Mary (15); Tim Burton's the Nightmare Before Christmas (PG): My Name is Joe (15); Antz (PG); Mulan (U)

DONCASTER
ODEON (08705-050007); Ronin (15);
Out of Sight (15); The Magic Sword:
Quest for Camelot (U): Blade (18); Antz

WARNER VILLAGE (01302-371371); Antz (PG): Out of Sight (15): There's Something About Mary (15): Lost in Space (PG): Rush Hour (15): Mulan (U); The Land Girls (12): Ronin (15): The Ne-gotiator (15): Blade (18): Elizabeth (15): Small Soldiers (PG); The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): Jackie Chan Double-Bill (18)

ABC WESTER HAILES (0131-442 2200); Small Soldiers (PG); Ronin (15); Out of Sight (15); Rounders (15); There's Something About Mary (15); Antz (PG); The Truman Show (PG); Mulan (U); My Name is Joe (15): If Only (15); Hope Floats (PG); The Negotiator (15); Blade (18); Rush Hour (15)

(15): Bandhan (PG): The Philadelphia Stoing Barrels (18); The Fly (18); My Name is Joe (15); Event Horizon (18); Cube (15)

Land Girls (12): Small Soldiers (PG):Elizabeth (15); Out of Sight (15): Antz (PG): Still Crazy (15): Mulan (U): There's Something About Mary (15)

ABC SAUCHIEHALL ST (0141-332 1592); Slums of Beverly Hills (15); Small Soldiers (PG); Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18); Out of Sight (15); Ronin (15); Antz (PG)

THE BOMBAY (0141-419 0722); The Soldier (Asian Film) (NC); Mehndi (PG) CALEDONIAN GROSVENOR (0141-339) 4298); Antz (PG); Ronin (15); Tim Bur-ton's the Nightmare Before Christmas (PG); The Boy from Mercury (PG); My Name is Joe (15)

ODEON (08705-050007); Rounders (15); Out of Sight (15); Ronin (15); Rush Hour (15); There's Something About Mary (15); Mulan (U); Blade (18); A Per-fect Murder (15); Antz (PG); The Ne-gotiator (15); Halloween; H2O (18)

(12); If Only (15); Still Crazy (15); There's Something About Mary (15)

VIRGIN FORGE PARKHEAD (0541-555136): Blade (18): Mulan (U): Small Soldiers (PG); My Name is Joe (15); Out of Sight (15); Dr Dolittle (PG); Rush Hour (15): Antz (PG); The Truman Show (PG); The Negotiator (15): Ronin (15)

UCI (0990 883990): Dr Dollttle (PG); Snake Eyes (15); Ronin (15); Doll Sa-jake Rakhna (NC); Blade (18); Out of Sight (15); There's Something About Mary (15); The Spanish Prisoner (PG); Mulan (U); The Exorcist (25th Anniver-Mistan (U): The Exercist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): The Negotlator (15): Aniz (PG): Rounders (15): Elizabeth (15): Tim Burton's the Nightmare Before Christmas (PG): Small Soldiers (PG)

ABC FILM CENTRE (0131-228 1638); Small Soldiers (PG); Out of Sight (15); Barney's Great Adventure (U); Antz (PG); Ronin (15); Fear And Loathing in Las Vegas (18)

CAMEO (0131-228 4141); Elizabeth ry (U); The Last Days of Disco (15); Rounders (15); Lock, Stock & TwoSmok-

DOMINION (0131-447 4771): The

ODEON (08705-050007); Rush Hour (15); Ronin (15); Dr Dolittle (PG); Out of Sight (15); Godzilla (PG); Antz (PG); The or (15): Blade (18); Mulan (U);

ABC CLARKSTON ROAD (0141-637 2641); Small Soldiers (PG); Out of Sight (15); Antz (PG); Ronin (15); Mulan (U):

SPRINGFIELD QUAY (08705-050007): The Negotiator (15): The Exordist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): Elizabeth 15); Rounders (15); Out of Sight (15); My Name is Joe (15); Dead Man's Curve (15); Ronin (15); Halloween: H20 (18); Blade (18); LFF on Tour: The Mighty (NC): Small Soldiers (PG): Rush Hour (15); The Truman Show (PG); Mulan (U); A Perfect Murder (15); LFF on Tour: Bulworth (NC); Antz (PG): Les Misérables

HULL.
ODEON (08705-050007); The Negotiator (15); Blade (18); Mulan (U); The Muppet Christmas Carol (U); If Only (15); Antz (PG); Saving Private Ryan (15); Dead Man's Curve (15); Rush Hour (15); Rounders (15); Small Soldiers (PG); The Magic Sword: Quest for Camelot (U); The Iruman Show (PG); Ronin (15); Out of Sight (15); Godzilla (PG); There's Something About Mary (15); Dr Dolittle (PG); The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18)

HULL SCREEN (01482-883015); World Aids Day Double Bill (NC); Lost in Space (PG); The Land Girls (12); Yojimbo (PG)

UCI 8 ST ANDREWS QUAY (0990-888990); Ronin (15); The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): Elizabeth (15); Mulan (U): Blade (18); The Truman Show (PG): There's Something About Mary (15); Antz (PG); Out of Sight (15); Rush Hour (15); Small Soldiers (PG); Dr Dolittle (PG); The Negotiator (15); Kuch Kuch Hota Hai (PG)

INVERNESS EDEN COURT THEATRE (01463-234274); Love is the Devil (18); The Godfather (18); Love is the Devil (18); Velvet

CALEDONIAN CINEMAS (01463-CALEDONIAN CINEMAS (U1963-233302); Addams Family Values (PG); There's Something About Mary (15); Antz (PG); Rush Hour (15); Out of Sight (15); Mulan (U); Small Soldiers (PG)

WARNER VILLAGE (01463-711147); Lost in Space (PG); Rush Hour (15); Elizabeth (15); Out of Sight (15); Antz (PG); Mulan (U); Ronin (15); Velvet Goldmine (18): Primary Colors (15): Blade (18): Small Soldiers (PG); The Negotiator (15): There's Something About Mary (15)

ABC (0113-245 2665); For Richer or Poorer (12); Small Soldiers (PG); Out of Sight (15); Antz (PG); Slums of Bev-

ODEON (08705-050007); Rounders (15): If Only (15): Mulan (U): The Negotiator (15): There's Something About Mary (15); Ronin (15); Rush Hour (15)

WARNER VILLAGE (0113-279 9855); The Negotiator (15): Aniz (PG): Elizabeth (15); Lost in Space (PG): Les Misérables (12): The Enorcist (25th Anniversary Rere-lease) (18): The Truman Show (PG): The Land Girls (12): Small Soldiers (PG): Rush Hour (15): Blade (18): Rounders (15): Seer and Loathing in Les Merces (18): No. Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18): Mu-lan (U): There's Something About Mary (15); Ronin (15): Jackle Chan Double-Bill (18); Out of Sight (15)

ODEÓN FREEMENS PARK (08705-050007); Rush Hour (15); Barney's Great Adventure (U); Cabbage Patch: Animation Festival (NC); If Only (15); Lost in Space (PG); Mulan (U): Rounders (15); Les Misérables (12); The Negotiator (15); Out of Sight (15); Godzilla (PG); S Soldiers (PG); The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18); Slums of Beverly Hills (15): Ronin (15); The Truman Show (PG); Dead Man's Curve (15); Elizabeth (15); Dr Dolittle (PG): Blade (18);

There's Something About Mary (15); Antz (PG); Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18) PHOENIX ARTS (0116-255 4854); The

Land Girls (12) WARNER VILLAGE (0116-282 7733): The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18); Out of Sight (15); Rounders (15); Mulan (U): Rush Hour (15): Les Misérables (12): There's Something About Mary (15): Antz (PG): The Truman Show (PG): Ronin (15): Blade (18): Small Soldiers (PG); The Negotiator (15); The Land Girls (12); Elizabeth (15); Lost in

Space (PG) LINCOLN

ODEON (08705-050007); The Negotiate Evil (15): Antz (PG); Rush Hour (15); Out of Signt (15); Small Soldiers (PG); In & Out (12); Romin (15); Blade (18); Dr Dolktie (PG); Mulan (U); Elizabeth (15)

LIVERPOOL ABC ALLERTON (0151-724 3550): Barney's Great Adventure (U): Blade (18): Antz (PG)

ODEON (08705-050007); Out of Sight (15): Tim Burton's the Nightmare Be-fore Christmas (PG): Rush Hour (15): If Only (15): Mulan (U): Antz (PG): Godzil-la (PG): The Muppet Christmas Carol (U): Ronin (15): Spiceworld - The Movie (PG)

SWITCH ISLAND LEISURE PARK (0151-525 2020): Cabbage Patch: Animation Festival (NC): Blade (18); Ronin (15); Out of Sight (15); Lock, Stock & Two Smok-ing Barrels (18); Rush Hour (15); LFF on Tour: Little Voice (NC); Dead Man's Curve (15): Lost in Space (PG): Snake Eyes (15); Rounders (15); Saving Private Ryan (15): There's Something About Mary (15): LFF: Festen (Fete de Familie) (NC): Antz (PG); MouseHunt (PG): IfOnly (15)

VIRGIN (0541-555146); Rounders (15); VIRGIN (U341-335140); ROUNGERS (13); Small Soldiers (PG); Out of Sight (15); The Truman Show (PG); The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18); Mu-lan (U); Rush Hour (15); Blade (18); The

WOOLTON PICTURE HOUSE (0151-428 1919); Elizabeth (15); Small Soldiers

MANCHESTER ARENA SEVEN CINEMAS (0161-839 0700); Blade (18); Hope Floats (PG); Les Misérables (12); Mulan (U); Small Soldiers (PG): Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18); Rounders (15); Elizabeth (15); Out of Sight (15); Ronin (15); Dead

CINECITY (0161-445 8181); Razor Blade Smile (18); Elizabeth (15); Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18)

ODEON (08705-050007); The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18); Out of Sight (15); Blade (18); Ronin (15); If Only (15); Snake Eyes (15); Rush Hour (15); Razor Blade Smile (18); Rounders (15); Cabbage Patch: Animation Festi-

val (NC): Antz (PG): The Negotiator (15) Val (NC); Antz (PG): The Negotiator (15)
UCI TRAFFORD CENTRE (0870-603
4567); Fear and Loathing In Las Vegas
(18); Halloween: H20 (18); Dr Dolittle
(PG); Out of Sight (15); For Richer or
Poorer (12); Doll Sajake Rakhna (NC);
Slums of Bewerly Hills (15); Les Misérables (12): Kuch Kuch Hota Hai (PG);
Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18);
Mendhi (PG); Elizabeth (15); The Exorclst (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18);
Mulan (U); Hope Floats (PG); Rush Hour
(15); Rounders (15); Blade (18); The Soldler (Aslan Film) (NC); Antz (PG); Dead
Man's Curve (15); The Negotiator (15); Man's Curve (15); The Negotiator (15); Saving Private Ryan (15); There's Something About Mary (15); Snake Eyes (15); Ronin (15); If Only (15); Left Luggage (PG); Small Soldiers (PG); It's a Wonderful Life (II)

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE
ODEON (08705-050007); Antz (PG);
Rush Hour (15); Ever After (PG); Blade (18); Out of Sight (15); Mulan (U); Ronin (15): The Land Girls (12)

derful Life (U)

WARNER VILLAGE (0191-2210222): The Negotiator (15); Out of Sight (15); Jackie Chan Double-Bill (18); Still Crazy (15); Mulan (U); Antz (PG); Blade (18); Small Soldiers (PG); Ronin (15); Rounders (15); The Exercist (25th Angiversary Regulage) (18); niversary Rerelease) (18); The Land Girls (12); There's Something About Mary (15); Les Misérables (12); Rush Hour (15); Elizabeth (15)

NOTTINGHAM ABC (0115-947 5260); Antz (PG); Small Soldiers (PG); Slums of Beverly Hills (15); Out of Sight (15); Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18) ODEON (08705-050007); Mulan (U); Ronin (15); Rounders (15); There's Something About Mary (15); Blade (18); The Negotiator (15); If Only (15); The

Express (25th Anniversary Rerei SAVOY (0115-947 5812): Blade (18); Out of Sight (15): The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): Small Sol-diers (PG): Ronin (15): Mulan (U): Rush Hour (15): Antz (PG)

SHEFFIELD
ODEON (08705-050007); LFF on Tour:
Bulworth (NC): The Truman Show (PG):
There's Something About Mary (15): The
Negotiator (15): Ronin (15): Elizabeth
(15): If Only (15), Antz (PG): Out of Sight
(15): The Exercist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): Dr Dolittle (PG): Blade (18):
Mulan (U): Small Soldiers (PG): Rush
Hour (15)

UCI CRYSTAL PEAKS 10 (0990-888990); Blade (18); Rounders (15); Kuch Kuch Hota Hai (PG); Saving Private Ryan (15); Les Miserables (12); Small Soldiers (PG); The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18); The Land Girls (12); There's Separathing About Mary (15); Ropin (15). Something About Mary (15): Ronin (15): The Negotiator (15): Out of Sight (15): Antz (PG):Rush Hour (15): Godzilla (PG): Mulan (U): Dr Dolittle (PG) VIRGIN (Dom Valley) (0114-242 1237); Dil Se (NC): Kurt & Courtney (15): The Bordst (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18):

Binrist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): Saving Private Ryan (15): Godzilla (PG): Small Soldiers (PG): Snake Eyes (15): Dr Dolittle (PG): Rush Hour (15): Dead Man's Curve (15): Hope Floats (PG): Ronin (15): The Negotiator (15): Blade (18): If Only (15): Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18): Slums of Beverly Hills (15): The Truman Show (PG): Rounders (15): My Name is Joe (15): Les Misérables (12): Antz (PG): Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18): Mulan (U): For Richer or Poorer (12): There's Something About Mary (15): Still Crazy (15): Out of Sight (15)

(15): Out of Sight (15) WARNER VILLAGE (0114-256 9222); Saving Private Ryan (15); Rounders (15); The Land Girls (12); The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18); Out of Sight (15); Antz (PG); Small Soldiers (PG); Lost in Space (PG); There's Something About Mary (15); Mulan (U); Blade (18); Les Misérables (12); The Truman Show (PG); Elizabeth (15); Ronin (15); Purch Henr (15)

Rush Hour (15) WAKEFIEI D CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (01924-332230): There's Something About Mary (15): The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): Small Soldiers (PG): Ronin (15): Doli Sajake Rakhna (NC): Antz (PG): The Negotiator (15): Rush Hour (15): The Horse Whisperer (PG): Scale Feet (15): The Mark Rush Hour (15); The Horse Whisperer (PG); Snake Eyes (15); The Magic Sword: Quest for Cameiot (U); Saving Private Ryan (15); The Soldier (Asian Film) (NC); Elizabeth (15); Blade (18); If Only (15); Men in Black (PG); Mulan (U); The Truman Show (PG); Out of Sight (15); Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18); Rounders (15)

YORK CITY SCREEN (01904-612940): Sherlock Junior (U)

ODEON (08705-050007): Ronin (15); Antz (PG); Out of Sight (15); Blade (18); Mulan (U); The Horse Whisperer (PG)

WARNER VILLAGE (01904-691094); WARNER VILLAGE (01904-691094);
Rush Hour (15); The Negotiator (15);
Out of Sight (15); Elizabeth (15); Antz
(PG); Small Soldiers (PG); The Exorcist
(25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18); Lost
in Space (PG); Ronin (15); Les MisCrables
(12); If Only (15); There's Something
About Mary (15); Blade (18); The Truman Show (PG); Slums of Beverly Hills
(15); Rounders (15); Saving Private Ryan
(15); Mulan

> **CINEMA** REPERTORY

QUEEN'S FILM THEATRE 01232-244857 Love is the Devil (18) Sat 3.30pm; also Sun 8pm, Mon-Thur 7pm Titanic Town (NC) Sat 5.45pm; also Sun 4.45pm Hands (alsa Palms) (PG) Sat 6.30pm; also Sun 5.30pm The Last Days of Disco (15) Sat 9pm; 11.15pm; also Sun 7pm, Mon-Thur 6.45pm, 9pm

ELECTRIC (0121-643 7277) I Stand Alone (NC) Sat 1pm Love is the Deril (18) Sat, Sun 1.50pm, 4.20pm, 9pm; also Mon-Thur 4.20pm, 9pm The Last Emperor (15) Sat-Mon 4.45pm

Kundun (12) Sat, Mon 6.30pm; also Sun 2.10pm, 6.30pm Buffalo 66 (15) Sat-Tue/Thur 6.45pm The Big Lebowski (18) Tue-Thur 4.40pm, 8.45pm Fargo (18) Tue-Thur 6.55pm

ODEON: INTERNATIONAL BIRMING-HAM FILM AND TELEVISION FESTIVAL (0121-643 6103) Mandi (NC) Sat 2pm Kaliyattam (NC) Sat 6pm Heart (NC) Sat 9pm Very Bad Things (18) Sat 11pm Inteha (Extremes) (NC) Sun 6,30pm Dancing at Lughnasa (PG) Sun 8pm

MAC: BIRMINGHAM INTERNATIONAL FILM AND TELEVISION FESTIVAL (0121-440 3838) The Idiots (NC) Sat 6pm, 8.30pm

NARWICK ARTS CENTRE (01203-

524524) The Life of Jesus (NC) Sat 4pm, 9pm; also Sun 4pm, Mon 9pm Funny

Games (18) Sat. Mon. Wed 6,30pm; al so Sun 7.30pm, Tue, Thur 9pm The Land Girls (12) Tue 6.30pm; also Wed 9pm Drowning by Numbers (18) Thur 6.30pm METRO (01332-347765) Elizabeth (15) Tue/Sat 6om: also Sun 5.30pm Velvet Goldmine (18) Sat, Tue 8.30pm; also Sun 8pm, Wed 6.15pm, Thur 8.15pm The

COVENTRY

Psycho (15) Wed 8.45pm; also Thur 6pm RISH FILM CENTRE (00 353 1-679 3477/5744) Stalingrad (15) Sun 2.10pm Fumy Games (18) Sat 8.50pm; also Sun 4.40pm, 8.50pm, Mon-Thur 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 8.50pm Brother of Sleep (15) Sun 6.30pm Groundhog Day (PG) Tue 6.30pm Ivan the Terrible Part 1 (PG) Wed 7pm Ivan the Terrible Part 2 (PG)

THE SHERIDAN IMAX THEATRE (00 353 1-817 4222) NC) The Living Sea (IMAX) 1-817 4222) NC) The Living Sea (IMAX) (U) Sat, Fri 11am, 4pm, 7pm; also Sun-Wed 11am, 4pm, 7pm; 10pm, Thur 11am, 4pm, 10pm Everest (U) Sat-Wed, Fri 12pm, 3pm, 5pm, 8pm; also Thur 12pm, 3pm, 5pm Ring of Fire (U) Sat-Fri 1pm Blue Planet (U) Sat, Fri 2pm, 6pm; also Sun-Thur 2pm, 6pm, 9pm Rolling Stones at the Max: the Steel-wheels Faur 1998 (NO) Cas Ed Description wheels Tour 1989/90 (NC) Sat, Fri 9pm;

EDMBURGH
FILMHOUSE (0131-228 2688) Mr Freedom (NC) 3pm Henry Fool (18) Sat 5.40pm, 8.30pm; also Sun-Thur 2pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm Je Ne Vols Pas Ce Qu'On Me Trouve (NC) Sat 6pm Giris Town (15) Sat, Sun 6.10pm, 9pm; also Mon, Thur 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 9pm, Tue Comm Mad 2.20pm, 9pm, Tue Comm Mad 2.20pm, 9pm, Tue 9pm, Wed 3.30pm, 9pm L'Homme est une Femme Comme les Autres (NC) Sat Spm Le Septieme Cell (NC) Sun 1.45pm, 9pm La Meilleure Facon de Marcher (NC)/Garde a vue (NC) Sun 2pm Zonzon (NC) Sun 6pm Cantique de la Racaille (NC) Mon 3pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Mother and Son (U) Tue-Thur 3pm, 6pm, 8.45pm One False Move (18) Tue 3.30pm tes Corns Owers (NC) Tue Sonzon 1.50 False Move (18) Tue

3.30pm Les Corps Ouverts (NC) Tue 6pm

FILM THEATRE (0141-332 8128) Autres (NC) Sat 2pm The Governess (15) Sat, Sun 3.45pm, 8.30pm; also Mon. (15) Sat, Sun 3.45pm, 8.30pm; also Mon, Tue, Thur 1.30pm, 8.30pm, Wed 3.45pm, 6.15pm La Meilleure Facon de Marcher (NC)/Garde a Vue (NC) Sat 4.30pm Classe de Nelge (NC) Sat 8.15pm Les Corps Ouverts (NC) Sun 2pm (+ Shorts) Je Ne Vols Pas Ce Qu'On Me Trouve (NC) Sun Alfano Condens de la maralla Je Ne Vols Pas Ce Ou'On Me Trouve (NC)
Sun 4.15pm Cantique de la racaille
(Melody for a Hustler) (NC) Sun 6.15pm
Comme Elle Respire (NC) Sun 8.45pm
LFF on Tour: Helgoland, Babylon ((NC)
Mon 5.45pm Earth (NC) Mon 8.15pm
LFF on Tour: Brown's Requiem (NC) Tue
8.15pm LFF on Tour: Timeless Bottomiess Bad Movie (NC) Wed 5.45pm
LFF on Tour: Festen (NC) Wed 8.15pm
LFF on Tour: The Importance of Being
Earnest (U) Thur 5.45pm LFF on Tour:
Hideous Kinky (NC) Thur 8pm

GRIMSBY SCREEN (01472-323333) The Little Rascals (18) Sat 2,30pm A Perfect Murder (15) Sat 7.30pm The Land Girls (12) Sun-Wed 7.30pm

LANCASTER
THE DUKES PLAYHOUSE (01524-THE DUKES PLAYHOUSE (01524-66645) Dracella, Prine of Darkness (18) Sat 7.30pm The Story of the Late Chrysanthemums (NC) Sun 1.30pm Saving Private Ryan (15) Sun 4.15pm, also Mon 12.30pm, 4pm, 7.30pm, Wed 2.30pm, 7.30pm The Bollywood Movie (NC) Sun 7.30pm Les Apprentis (15) Tue 1.30pm, 4pm; also Wed 5.45pm, Thur 6pm My Son the Fanatic (15) Tue 6pm Shall We Dance? (PG) Tue 8pm, also Thur 3.45pm Life is All You Get (18) Thur 1.30pm, 8pm

LEICESTER IOENIX ARTS (0116-255 4854) Mousehunt (PG) 2.30pm Palmetto (15) Tue 6.05pm, 8.30pm The Land Girls (12) Thur 6.30pm; also Fri 6.05pm

CORNERHOUSE (0161-200 1500) My Name is Joe (15) Sat, Thur 1.55pm. 4.10pm, 6.25pm, 8.40pm; also Sun 4.10pm, 8.40pm, Mon 8.40pm, Fri 2pm. 4pm, 6.10pm, 8.20pm Funny Games (18) Sat, Sun 2pm, 6.10pm Henry Fool (18) Sat, Sun, Tue-Thur 2.10pm, 5.25pm, 8.05pm; also Mon 5.25pm, 8.05pm, Fri 5.25pm Insortinia (18) Sat, Sun 4pm, 8.00pm, also Mon 5.25pm, 8.05pm, Fri 8.20pm; also Mon 6.10pm, 8.20pm, Tue-Thur 2pm, 4pm, 6.10pm, 8.20pm Documentary Masterclass: Student Film Festival (NC) Tue 11am Documentary Programme: Student Film Festival (NC) Tue 1pm Just Do It - The Hip Hop Gulde to Television: Student Film Festival (NC) Tue 3.30pm Experimental Programme: Student Film Fes-tival (NC) Tue 6pm Drama Programme: Student Film Festival (NC) Tue 8.15pm Animation Masterclass: Student Film Festival (NC) Wed 11am Animatics gramme: Student Film Festival (NC) Wed 1pm Vision On: Panel Event: Student Film Festival (NC) Wed 3.30pm Best of the Festival: Student Film Festival (NC) Wed 7.30pm

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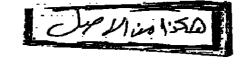
NEWCASTLE UPON TYME
TYNESIDE CINEMA (0191-232 8289)
Dr Dolittle (PG) 1.30pm Victory (15)
Sar, Mon, Tue 3.15pm, 8pm; also Sun
1pm, 6.15pm, Wed 3.15pm, 8.30pm, Thur
4pm Funny Games (18) Sar, Mon
3.30pm, 8.30pm; also Sun 4pm, 8.30pm,
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Name is Joe (15) Sar, Mon 5.45pm; also Sun 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.15pm, Tue
8.15pm, Wed 4.15pm, 8.15pm, Thur
3.30pm, 5.45pm Storefront Hitchcock
(NC) Sat 6pm Survivors of the Blues
Today (NC) Mon 6pm (+ Short) Le Bossu
(15) Tue 1.30pm Carla's Song (15) Tue
5.30pm Modulations (NC) Wed 6.30pm;
also Thur 8.30pm The Blues Brothers
(PG) Thur 8pm (PG) Thur 8pm

NOTTINGHAM

BROADWAY CINEMA (0115-952 6611) BROADWAY CINEMA (0115-952 6611)
Chicty Chicty Bang Bang (U) Sat 3pm
La Vie Revée des Anges (18) Sat, Sun
3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm; also Mon 6pm,
Tue-Thur 6pm, 8.30pm, Fri 8.30pm My
Name is Joe (15) Sat, Sun 6pm; also Mon
8.15pm, Tue, Thur 6pm, 8.15pm, Wed
8.30pm LFF on Tour: Via Satellite (NC)
Sat 8.15pm, 128pm, 128pm, 128 Sun Sat 8.15pm L'Appartement (15) Sun 3.30pm LFF on Tour: Pl (NC) Sun 8.15pm LFF on Tour: Little Voice (NC) Mon 8.30pm Made in the Midlands: Shorts (NC) Wed 6pm

SHEFFIELD THE SHOWROOM (0114-275 7727) The

Eel (18) Sat 1.20pm, 3.40pm; also Sun 1pm, 3.20pm, 5.40pm, Mon 2.20pm, 6.40pm, Tue, Thur 4pm, 8.30pm, Wed 2pm, 6.20pm An American Tall (U) Sat. 2pm, 0.20pm An American Tall (U) Sat. Sun 2pm Character (15) Sat. Mon 2pm, 6.20pm; also Sun 3.15pm, 7.45pm, Tuc. Thur 2.45pm, 8.20pm, Wed, Fri 6.15pm Rounders (15) Sat 2pm, 6.30pm; also Sun 3.20pm, 7.50pm, Mon-Thur 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm My Name is Joe (15) Sat 4.15pm. 6.30pm, 8.50pm, 8.5 opm, 8.30pm, my name is 10e [13] Sur 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm; also Sun 3.45pm, 6pm, 8.15pm, Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm, Tue 2pm, 9.15pm Stums of Beverly Hills (15) Sat 4.30pm, 9pm; also Sun 5.50pm, Mon 4.45pm, 9pm, Tue, Thur, Fri 2pm, 6.30pm, 4.45pm, 5pm, Iue, 1nur, Fri 2pm, 6.3upm, Wed 4.20pm, 8.50pm Victory (15) Sat. Mon 4.20pm, 8.50pm; also Sun 5.45pm, Tue, Thur 6.10pm, Wed. Thur 2.45pm, 8.45pm LFF on Tour; The Mighty (NC) Sat 6pm LFF on Tour; Festen (NC)



THEATRE

HIS MAJESTY'S The 39 Steps John

Peter Pan Sonia stars in J M Bar

rie's tale. 4 Dec. 7pm, ends 3 Jan. £10-£14, concs available. Rose-

mount Viaduct (01224-641122)

BIRMINGHAM REP The Snowman

Award-winning production of

Raymond Briggs contemporary classic. 1-2 & 4 Dec. 10.30am, 29 Nov. 1pm, 28 Nov. 1-3 & 5 Dec. 7.15pm.

£7.25-£19. concs available. Broad Street (0121-236 4455)

GRAND THEATRE Our Country's Good Study of the civilising power of theatre by Timberlake Werten-

baker 1-5 Dec, 7.30pm, mat 3 Dec, 2.30pm, £7-£14. Church Street

ALHAMBRA THEATRE STUDIO

The Football Factory Drama based on the adult cult novel. Contains strong language. 4 & 5 Dec. 8pm. E6. concs £4. Morley Street (01274-752000/cc 752677)

ALHAMBRA THEATRE Richard III Robert Lindsay stars as the histori-cal villain, 1-5 Dec, 7.30pm, mats 2 Dec, 2pm, 5 Dec, 2.30pm, £7-£18.50. Moriey Street (01274-

THEATRE IN THE MILL Strande THEATRE IN THE MILL. Scramoen Powerful tale inspired by Ugo Besti's Crime on Goat Island. 3 Dec, 7.30pm. £5, concs £3, University of Bradford, Shearbridge Road

EVERYMAN THEATRE Aladdin

Princesses, pagodas and anties in Peking 3 & 4 Dec. 7.15pm, ends 16 Jan. £4.50-£13. Regent Street

FESTIVAL THEATRE Joseph and

the Amazing Technicolor Dream-coat Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical version of the

Bible story. 28 Nov. 2pm & 7.30pm. £5.50-£20, concs avilable. Nicolson

TRAVERSE THEATRE PAIN A per-

sonal account of the writer/per-former's life-long battle with chronic arthritis. 28 & 29 Nov. 8pm. £9.

Smells + Bells A priest is exiled af-

ter being caught with a 16-year-old boy. 3-6 Dec, 7.30pm. £7, concs £3.50.

Cambridge Street (0131-228 1404)

ARCHES THEATRE Under Milk

Wood New production of Dylan Thomas' enchanting tale. 28 Nov.

7.30pm. £6.50, concs £3.50. Mid-land Street (0141-221 4001)

CITIZENS THEATRE Merlin the

Magnificent An enchanting new Christmas show. 28-30 Nov. 2pm, 28

Nov, 7pm, 1 & 2 Dec, 10am & 2pm, 30 Nov, 10am, 3 & 4 Dec, 2pm &

7pm, ends 26 Dec. £2.50-£10, concs available. Gorbals Street

(0141-429.0022)

Street (0131-529 6000)

(01274-383200)

CHELTENHAM

(01242-572573)

EDINBURGH

GLASGOW

ABERDEEN

BLACKPOOL

(01253-290190)

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METHING ABOUT MARY (15) spection Day, Mail Dillon and le him lateral councily from the large team of Peter and liabh Fans a manufacture of the state of t augment However the films bare remember over the 2. the land to Mercul on a require house

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11984-12.10 - 12.04 News Headlines; Shipping Forecast. 2.30 - 9.45 Test Match Special. Radio 5 Live (53.5 SQP) And 1.00 Brief Lives. 8.30 Breaklest with Andrew Neil. 9.00 Sports Week. 10.00 Hayes on Sunday. 12.00 Superpowers. 12.30 The Media Show. 10.00 Sunday. 12.00 News Edm. 7.30 Edm. Trins. Sunday, 12.00 Superpowers, 12.30 The Media Show, 1.00 Sunday Sport, 7.00 News Evan, 7.30 Evan Time, 8.30 Brief Lives, 9.00 Delilyn Worldwide, 9.30 Out This Week, 10.00 List Night Currie, 1.00 Lip All Night, 5.00 - 5.00 Morning Reports.
World Service Radio (1984): L. LW 1.00 Newsday, 1.30 The Way We Are, 1.9841: LW 1.00 Newsday, 2.30 Merkilan (Feature), 3.00 World News, 3.05 Write On, 3.15 Sports Roundup, 3.30 The World, 4.00 - 7.00 The World Today.

CITIZEN'S THEATRE STALLS STU-DIO Summit Conference The mis-tresses of Hitler and Mussolini assume the roles of their lovers. From 1 Dec. Tue-Sar, 7.30pm, ends 23 Dec. £8, concs £2, free preview 1 Dec. Gorbals Street (0141-429 0022) Buchan's spy thriller is adopted for the stage 28 Nov. 2.30pm & 7.30pm. £7.50-£16.50, cones available.

CITIZENS THEATRE: CIRCLE STU-OIC The Killing of Sister George Comedy of sexual politics centering on the exing of a radio soep star. From 2 Dec. Tue-Sat. 7.30pm. ends 23 Dec. £8, concs £2, free preview 2 Dec. Gorbals (0141-429 0022)

KING'S THEATRE Sleeping Beau ty Elaine C Smith stars in this magical fairy-tale production. From 4 Dec. Mon-Sat. 7pm, ends 16 Jan. £2,50llable. Bath Street (0141-287 5511)

PAVILION THEATRE Pinoccisio The Krankies and Jimmy Cricket deliver a magical panto treat. 2-4 Dec. 7.30pm, 3 Dec 1.30pm, 4 Dec, 10am, ends 23 Jan. £6-£9-50, concs allable. Renfield Street (0141-332

HULL TRUCK THEATRE Gold! Holl Truck's story of five college friends who re-unite. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 16 Jan. £5.50-£10, concs available Spring Street (01482-224800)

NEW THEATRE Smokey Joe's Cafe
- The Songs of Leiber and Stoller
The rock'n roll hitmakers celebrated in a misical revue that includes Tailhouse Rock. 28 Nov. 6pm & 9pm. £7-£18, concs available. Gingston Square (01482-226655)

GRAND THEATRE Jesus Christ Su-perstar Tim Rice and Lloyd Web-ber's acclaimed hiblical musical, 28 Nov. 2.30pm & 7.30pm, £5.50-£24. New Briggate (0113-222 6222)

WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE: COURTYARD THEATRE The Seng-uil Jude Kelly directs Ian McKellen and Clare Higgins. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, mats 28 Nov. 2 Dec. 2pm, ends 5 Dec. £8.50-£17, concs available. Cusarry Hill Mount (0113-213 7700)

WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE: OUARRY THEATRE Martin Guerre Boubil and Schooberg's musical love story. From 28 Nov. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thur & Sat 2pm, ends 13 Feb. £8-£21. Quarry HIII Mount (0113-213 7700) (0113-213 7700)

HAYMARKET THEATRE Singin' in the Rain High-water mark of American musicals. From 4 Dec. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 6 Feb. 67-£19.50. Belgrave Gate (0116-253 9797)

HAYMARKET THEATRE STUDIO Arrange That Marriage Acutely observed Asian comedy. From 1 Dec, Tue-Sat 7.45pm, ends 12 Dec. £4-Belgrave Gate (0116-253 9797)

FORUM THEATRE WYTHEN. SHAWE The Snow Queen Imaginative adaptation of Hans Christian Anderson's fairy tale. 28 Nov. 2.30pm, 1-4 Dec. 10.30am, ends 2 Jan. £8-£14, concs £6-£11. Civic Centre (0161-437 9663)

THE GREEN ROOM Spoonface Steinberg Lee Half's acclaimed play about a terminally ill autistic girl . 4 & 5 Dec, 8pm. £7, concs £4 Worth Street West (0161-950 5900) (01.15-941 9419)

LIBRARY THEATRE Puss in Boots
Adventure story about a young man who leaves home in search of fame Verge of and fortune, accompanied by his excentionally clever cat Pass, 2-4 Dec. 10.30am, 1 Dec, 2pm, 28 & 30 Nov, 4 Dec. 7pm, continuing. £8-£15, concs available. Central Library, St Peter's Square (0161-236 7110)

OPERA HOUSE Oliver! Gary Wilmot stars in Lionel Bart's Dick-ensian musical. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 30 Jan. £10-£29. Quay Street (0161-242 2503/cc 831 7733).

ROYAL EXCHANGE THEATRE Himdie Waises The Royal Exchange re-opens with the production which was cut short by the bomb blast in 1998, From 30 Nov. Mon-Fri 7,30pm Sat, 8pm. ends 9 Jan. £7-£23, concs available. St Anne's Square (0161-833 9833)

THE SELFREDGES STUDIO So Special Kevin Hood's razor sharp por-trayal of youth, From 3 Dec, Mon-Fri 7_30pm, Sat 4pm & 8pm, ends 19 Dec. £7, concs £5. St Anne's Square (0161-833 9833)

NOTION THEATR CYMRU The Norman Conquests: Living To-gether Alan Ayekhourn's comedy about an evening of dandelion wine and a home-made board game. 28 Nov, 2pm, ends 5 Dec. £5-£15, concs available.

The Norman Conquests: Round and
Round the Garden Alan Ayekbourn's comedy about attempted
and failed adultery. 28 & 30 Nov.
ends 5 Dec. 25-215, concs available.

Bouncers John Godber's comedy about young nightchub doormen. 28 Nov. 7.45pm. £12, concs £9.50. Cvic Centre (01352-755114) NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE LIVE THEATRE Sounds... in Session Drama looking at the balance

of power between singer, producer and engineer. 30 Nov. 8pm, phone for prices. Broad Chare, Quayside (0191-232 1232) NEWCASTLE PLAYHOUSE The Princess and the Goblin The gob-lins attempt to take over the world in this magical Christmas show. 30 Nov. 1-3 Dec. 10am, 30 Nov. 1-4 Dec, 2pm, 4 Dec, 7pm, ends 9 Jan. £10.75-£12.75. concs available.

Barras Bridge (0191-230 5151) THEATRE ROYAL Joke and the Beanstalk Comedy panto show. Adults only. 30 Nov-3 Dec., 7.30pm, Admissing 30 Nov-3 Dec. 7.30pm, 4 & 5 Dec. 6pm & 9pm. £5-£15. The Importance of Being Earnest Liza Goddard and Dora Bryan star in Oscar Wilde's comedy of verbal pyrotechnics. 30 Nov-5 Dec. 7.30pm. mars 3 Dec, 2pm, 5 Dec, 2.30pm. £5-£19, concs available. Grey Street (0191-232 2061)

NORTHAMPTON ROYAL THEATRE Dead Funny The the great British comedians runny the the focus for Terry Johnson's poignant comedy 28 Nov. 7.30pm. £4-£14.50. Guildhall Road (01604-632 533)

NOTTINGHAM NOTTINGHAM PLAYHOUSE Jack and the Beanstalk Kenneth Alan Taylor writes and directs his 15th consecutive pantomime for Nottingham Playhouse. 28 Nov. 1-4 Dec. 2.30pm & 7.30pm, ends 23 Jan. £9-£12. £5-£8. East Circus Street

PERTH THEATRE Women on the Verge of HRT Two fortysomething women discuss their situation in BIRMINGHAM

life. Mon-Sat, sat mat 28 Nov, 2.30pm, ends 12 Dec. £5-£13, concs £3.50-£6.50. High Street (01738-621031) PRESTON CHARTER THEATRE Lord of the Files Stage version of William Gold-ing's classic novel. 28 Nov. 7.30pm. £9.50. concs available. Lancaster

Road (01772-258858) SCARBOROUGH STEPHEN JOSEPH THEATRE: THE ROUND The Boy Who Fell Into a Book Alan Ayekbourn's play for chil-dren about a boy who wakes up to find himself a character in the book he was reading, 3 & 4 Dec., 10am & 1,30pm, ends 9 Jan. £9, concs £4.50. West-borough (01723-370541)

LYCEUM THEATRE Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Web-Ann Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical version of the Bible story. 30 Nov-3 Dec. 7.45pm, 4 Dec. 5.30pm & 8.30pm, 5 Dec. 5pm & 8pm, mats 1-3 Dec. 2pm. £7-£20.50, cones available. Norfolk Street (0114-276 9922)

STAMFORD ARTS CENTRE Season's Greetings Ayckhoum's sea-sonal comedy. 28 Nov. 7.45pm. £4-£4.50, concs £3.50-£4. St Marys Screet (01780-763203)

THEATRE ROYAL HANLEY Pirates of Permance Paul Nicholas stars in this swash-buckling reworking of the Gilbert and Sullivan classic. 28 Nov, 2.30pm & 7.30pm, £10.50-£20, concs available. Pall Mall (01782-207777)

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe Adrian Noble directs Adrian Mitchell's adaptation of the CS Lewis Namia classic. 28 & 30 Nov. 2-4 Dec, 7.15pm, 1 Dec, 7pm, 28 Nov, 2.30pm, 2 Dec, 1.30pm, ends Feb 27, £5-£30. Waterskie (01789-

SWAN THEATRE A Month in the Country Brian Friel's adaptation of Turgenev's portrait of all-consuming sexual desire. Michael Attenborough directs. 28-30 Nov. 1-4 Dec. 7.30pm, mat 28 Nov. 1.30pm, ends 20 Feb. £5-£30. Waterside (01789-

EMPIRE THEATRE A Clockwork Orange Anthony Burgess' provoca-tive and disturbing tale of youth vi-olence is brought to the stage. 28 Nov, 7.30pm. £10.50-£12.50. High Street West (0191-514 2517)

ROSES THEATRE Chicks with Flicks Jackie Clunes brings a bey of disco divas to life, 29 Nov. 7.30pm. £8. Sun Street (01684-295074)

THEATRE ROYAL King Arthur and the Knights of the Occasional Table Comedy duo Maggie Fox and Sue Ry-ding tackle the famous Arthurian legend. 2-5 Dec., 8pm, £6-9.50, concs available. St Leonards Place (01904-

EXHIBITIONS CLASSICAL

INGHAM MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY Burne-Jones Important work by Sir Edward Burne-Jones. Mon-Thur, Sat 10am-5pm, Fri 10.30am-5pm, Sun 12.30pm-5pm, ends 17 Jan. £5. £3.50 concs, £14 family, Chamberlain Square (0121-303 2834)

MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND The History Of Scotland Ten thousand exhibits from the national collections tell the history of Scotland. Opens 30 Nov. Mon. Wed-Sat 10am-5pm. Tue 10am-8pm, Sun 12noon-5pm, continuing, £3, concs £1.50, child free. season ticket £5, concs £2.50, free Tue, 5pm-8pm. Chambers Street (0131-225 7534)

ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM, KELVINGROVE BT Dialogue in the Dark Visitors explore their senses in sound, scent and touch exhibits, Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 11am-5pm, ends 10 Jan, free. (0141-287 2699)

HENRY MOORE INSTITUTE Les Cambodgiennes: Auguste Rodin Drawings made during the Royal Cambodian dance company's tour to France in 1908. Mon-Sun 10am-5.30pm, Wed 10am-9pm, ends 3 Jan, free. The Headrow (0113-234

TATE GALLERY LIVERPOOL A Mythology: Salvador Dali Major works from the Plorida Dali museum. Ends 31 Jan. £5, concs £2.50. Modern British Art The refur-bished galleries exhibit works from bished galleries exhibit works from the National Collections. Ends Apr

life. Ends Apr 99, free. Cubism Forty paintings, sculptures and collages by Picasso, Braque and others. Tue-Sun & Bank Hols 10am-6pm, ends Apr 99, free. Albert Dock (0151-709 3223)

MANCHESTER CORNERHOUSE Peter Greenaway Paintings, drawings and prints by the film-maker. Tue-Sat 11am-6pm. Sun 2pm-6pm, ends 6 Dec, free. Oxford Street (0151-228 2463)

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE HATTON GALLERY Newcontem-poraries98 The best of the young talent emerging from the UK. Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-4.30pm (term time only), ends 15 Jan, free. University of Newcastle upon Tyne (0191-222 6057)

SKEFFIELD GRAVES ART GALLERY Doubl Games: Sophie Calle Comprehen sive retrospective of Calle's work in cindes a new work made with novelist Paul Auster. In two venues. Tue-Sat 10am-5pm, ends 30 Jan, free. Surrey Street (0114-273 5158)

YORK CITY ART GALLERY Venice Through Canaletto's Eyes Twenty-three paintings and drawings by the great Venetian artist. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.30pm-5pm, ends 3 Jan free. Exhibition Square (01904-551861)

SYMPHONY HALL Andres Schiff Schumann's F minor Sonata and Chopin's 24 Preludes, 28 Nov. 8pm. £5-£21.

The Messiah with the City of Birm-ingham Choir. 4 & 8 Dec., 7pm. £8-£27. Broad Street (0121-212 3333)

EDINBURGH THE OUEEN'S HALL Chilingirian Ouarter A concert of string quartets. 30 Nov. 7,45pm. £8-£14, concs

Scottish Chamber Orche tra/Davies Sir Peter Maxwell Da Orchesoducts three of his own works in chiding A Spell For The Green Corn-The MacDonald Dances. 3 Dec. 7.45pm. £5-£18, concs available. Clerk Street (0131-668 2019)

RRIDGEWATER HALL Halle/Dunk Music from the ballet. 28 Nov. 7.30pm. £6.50-£29. LSO/Davis Brahms's Concerto for Violin and £6.50-£29. Lower Mosley 7.30pm. £7-£30. Lower Mosley Street (0161-907 9000)

OPERA

GLASGOW THEATRE ROYAL Hansel And Gre-tel Mark Tinkler directs Scottish Opera's new production of erdinck's mu Bumperdine's musical fairytale. 2 Dec. 7.15pm, 5 Dec. 2.15pm, ends 23 Dec. £3.50-£45.50. cones avail-able. Hope Street (0141-332 9000/cc 331 1234)

HUDDERSPELD AWRENCE BATLEY THEATRE Punch and Judy Music Theatre Wales production of Birtwistle's clas-sic chamber opera, 28 Nov. 7.30pm. £7.50-£15, concs £5. Queen Street (01484-430528)

MANCHESTER ROYAL NORTHERN COLLEGE OF MUSIC Le Nozze di Figaro RNCM Opera with Mozart's classic comedy after Beaumarchais, 2, 5, 8, 10 6 12 Dec, 7pm. £12-£25. Oxford Road

(0161-907 5278)

DANCE

HIPPODROME Birmingham Roy-al Ballet: The Nutoracter Peter Wright's stunning production. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats 4, 8, 10 Dec. 2pm, 5 Dec, 2.30pm, ends 16 Dec. £13-£36. Hurst Street (0121-622 7486)

Square (0151-709 1693) NEW OLYMPUS THEATRE Pavlov Ballet: Giselle The classic story re-MANCHESTER ELECTRIC CHAIR AT THE ROAD-HOUSE DJ Science (DJ Cam Sound System, Paris) at this monthly break-beat night. 28 Nov. 10.30pm-4am, £5, Newton Street (0161-237 9789) told through new choreography by Al-la Chachina. 28 Nov. 2.30pm & 7,30pm. £12-£14, concs £10. Barton Street (01452-505089)

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE THEAIRE ROYAL Russian National Ballet: The Sleeping Beauty
The fairy tale ballet performed by the
Russian Ballet in the UK for the first time, 28 Nov. 7.30pm, £6-£28. Grey Street (0191-232 2061)

LITERATURE

Book of Saladin. Bradford Central Ubrary Princes Way (01943-601210) 3 Dec. 7.30pm, £2, concs £1.

EVENT Morrison explores the rela-tionship between fiction and non-fic-

tion, reading from And When Did You Last See Your Father?, Too True and

As If Warwick Arts Centre Gibbet

Hill Road (01203-524524) 2 Dec.

BENJAMIN ZEPHANIAH - FESTI-

VAL FINALE Popular performance poet returns to the festival by popular demand. The Craiglands Hotel Compacture Road (01943-601210)

COMEDY

Fothergill, Andrew Murrell, Andy Parsons, Mark Hurst, 28 Nov.

7.30pm, £8. (01684-295074)

CLUBS

SATURDAY AT CREAM Starring Paul Oakenfold, Judge Jules, Dave Haslam, Les Ryder and Paul Bleas-dale. 28 Nov. 9.30pm-3am, £10,

mems/NUS £7. Wolstenholme

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

Street (0191-232 9648)

NICE AT ROCKSHOTS A top night

of uplifting hardhouse. 28 Nov. 10pm-3am. £8, before 11pm/mems/NUS £7. Waterloo

29 Nov. 8pm, £7, concs £5.

LEICESTER

SHEFFIELD

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LIVERPOOL

COVENTRY

BRADFORD
AUTHOR EVENT: TARIQ ALI The leading writer, film maker and TV presenter reads from his latest novel, The chart Rives M PEOPLE, LYNDEN DAVID HALL.
Chart Brit-Boul, featuring the distinctive vocals of Heather Small.
Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre Ellon Road (01224-641122) 29 Nov, 7pm, £21.50.

MUSIC

RLAKE MORRISON: LITERATURE BURMINGHAM JULIAN ARGUELLES OCTET Award winning jazz sax player CBSO Centre Berkley Street (0121-236 5622) 4 Dec, 8pm, £9, concs £5.

PULP, EELS This Is Hardcore tour following up on the critically ac-claimed album, and the wild recep-tion for the summer's live shows. Vational Exhibition Centre (0121-780 4133) 2 Dec, 7pm, £17.50.

GLASGOW double bill headlined by the singer songwriter heard on the soundtrack to the film Good Will Hunting G2 un-der The Garage Sauchichall Street

THE ASIAN COMEDY SHOP AT THE DRUM The best in Asian stand-

THE DRUM THE DEST MASIAN STAND-up with Siddiga Akhitar, Haqi as Mr G., Jay Sodagar, MC Jeff Mirza. 4 Dec., 8pm, £7, concs £5. Potters Lane (0121-333 2444)

JONGLEURS LEICESTER John 7.45pm, £10.
Jeff Innocent, Roger D., San Franciscan stand-up Arj Barker, Matt Welcome. 4 Dec. 7.45pm, £10.
Granby Street (0845-6081818) £12.50-E14.

JEREMY HARDY AT THE FOUNDRY, SHEFFIELD UNIVER-

SITY SU Award winning comedy from this Radio 4 and TV regular and star of If I Ruled The World. 3 Dec. 8pm. SPACE Tommy Scott and the quirky Liverpudlian post-Britpop crew. Barbican Centre Paragon Street (01904-656688) 28 Nov. 8pm. , concs £8. Western Bank (011A-CHICKS WITH FLICKS AT ROSES
THEATRE Jackie Clune presents a
Litschy, camp musical tribute to the
disco divas of the 1970s, 29 Nov.

EVENTS

fagic Lantern Show. Streetlife Museum High Street (01482-343 457) 29 Nov. 11am-4pm, £1, child under 13 free.

Sun 2pm-5pm, free.

RADIO

SUNDAY

CHOICE THE NEW Classic Serial is Bleak House (3pm R4) and a bleak place it sounds, too, m John Dryden's John Dryden's production, recorded in service location with an echoey accused, Michael Kitchen (above plays).

but depressing. Radio 1 (37 6-92 8.4% FM) 6.30 Kevin Greening, 10.00 Mark Goodler's Radio 1 Request Show 1.00 Lise ("Anso 1. 3.00 Top of the Pops, 4.00 UK Top 40, 7.00 Padio 1's Dance Anthems with Dave Pearce, 10.00 Trevor Nelson, 12.00 Charlie Jordan, 4.00 - 6.30 Scott Mills, Padio 2 185.07 2 MHT P. II 7.00 Don Meciaen, 9.05 Stove

John Jarndyce, Anton Lesser the chilly lawyer, Tulkinghorn, Classy,

(82-90.2MHz Phi) 7.00 Don Medican, 9.05 Steve P(82-90.24/Hz Ft.I) 7.00 Don Maclean. 9.05 Steve Wright. 11.00 Parkinson's Sunday Supplement. 1.00 Desmond Carrington. 3.00 Frank Sinstra: the Voice of the Carriary, 4.00 The Michael Feinstein Songbook. 4.30 Sing Something Simple. 5.00 Parn Ayres. 7.00 Hugh Scully. 8.30 Sunday Helf Hour. 9.00 Alan Keith. 10.00 Melcolm Layocck. 11.00 Devid Jacobs. 12.00 Lynn Parsons. 3.00 - 4.00 Alex Lester. Readio 3 (30 2-92 44)-1; FM) 6.00 On Air. 9.00 Brian Kay's Sunday Morning. 11.00 Antist of the Week Encore. 12.15 Music Melters. 1.00 A Service for Advent with Carols. 2.30 Beethoven. 3.00 Spirit of the Age. 4.00 100 Great Singers. 4.15 Centurions. 4.30 The Year.

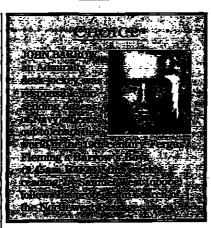
Carols. 2.30 Beethoven. 3.00 Spirit of the Age. 4.00 100 Great Singers. 4.15 Centurions. 4.30 The Year. 5.45 Sunday Feature: Inside the Wardrobe. 6.30 Private Passions. 7.30 Sunday Play: Troy. 9.00 Stravinsky. 9.30 Sunday Play: Troy. 11.00 World Music. 11.30 BBC Philinamonic. 1.00 - 8.00 Through the Night. Radio 4

(92 4-24 6/MHz FM) 6,00 News Briefing, 6,05 Something Understood, 6,35 On Your Farm, 6,57 Weather, 7,00 News, 7,05 Sunday Papers, 7-10 Sunday, 7,55 Radio 4 Appeal, 8,00 News, 8,05 Sunday Worship, 8,45 Letter from America, 9,00 News; Broadcasting House, 10,00 The Archers, 11,15 Desert Island Discs, 12,00 News; tarby Feet, 12,30 The Motion Show, 12,58 Weather, 1,00 The World This Weekend, 1,30 Round Britain Cuiz, 2,00 Gardeners' Cuestion Time, 2,30 Ramblings, 3,00 The Classic Serial; Bleek House, 4,00 News; How the 190 4-94 (NHz FM) 6,00 News Briefing. 6,05 Gardeners' Cuesach Time. 230 News; How the Classic Serial: Bleek House. 4.00 News; How the Stories Took Over. 4.30 Poetry Please. 5.00 News; Fite on 4. 5.40 Feedback. 5.54 Shipping Forecast. 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Pick of 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six O'Clo 5.57 Weather, 6.00 Six O'Clock News, 6.15 Pick of the Week, 7.00 News, The Archers, 7.15 Room for Improvement, 8.00 Cohfl and Soames, Bad Apples, 8.30 Law in Action, 9.00 News, Frank Gillard, 9.30 Analysis, 10.00 News, The Westminster Hour, 11.00 News; Brain of Britain 1998, 11.30 Something Understood, 12.00 News, 12.15 Experimental Feature: Department S, 12.30 The Late Story; Nightingale, 12.48 Shipping Forecast, 1.00 As World Service, 5.30 World News, 5.35 Shipping Forecast, 5.40 Inshore Forecast, 5.45 Prayer for the Day, 5.47 5.40 Inshore Forecast, 5.45 Prayer for the Day, 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

Radio 4 LW

1196H C) 12.00 - 12.04 News Headines; Shipping

MONDAY



Radio 1 (97,6-98.84-12 FM) 6.30 Zoe Ball, 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Kevin Greening, 2.00 Mark Radolife, 4.00 Chris Moyles, 5.45 Newsbeet, 6.00 Dave Pearce, 8.00 Larracq Live, 12.00 The Breszeblock, 2.00 Clive Warren, 4.00 - 6.30 Scott Mills, Radio 2

Radiic 2 (88-90 2M+12 FM) 6.00 Serah Kennedy. 7.30 Weke Up to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 John Inverdale. 2.00 Ed Stewert. 5.05 John Weller. 7.00 Georgie Fame. 8.00 Big Band Special. 8.30 The New Jazz Standards. 9.30 The Rock 'n' Roll Years. 10.30 Richard Allinson. 12.00 Lynn Parsons. 3.00 - 4.00

902-92-4M-iz FM 6.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks [90.2-92-4M-tz FM] 6.00 Cm Aiz 9.00 Masterworks. 10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Webgang Armadeus Mczart. 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. American composer John Adems visits Britain to conduct the London Symphony Orchestra in a blockbusting programme of his own music, as part of the Barbican Centre's inventing America's aspert of the Barbican Centre's inventing America's aspert. 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.00 Opera in Action. 4.45 Music Machine. 6 Of In Time 7.30 Reformmence on 3.9.15

Orchestras. 4.00 Opera in Action. 4.45 Music Machine. 5.00 in Ture. 7.30 Performance on 3, 8.15 Postscript. 9.25 Brahms. 10.00 Volcas. 10.45 Mizing & 11.30 Jazz Notas. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Josquin. 1.00 - 8.00 Through the Night. Radio 4 (52.4-94 6M-tr P.A.) 8.00 Yoday. 9.00 News; Start the Week: 9.45 Serist: Berrow's Boys. 10.00 News; Woman's Hour. 11.00 News; Snapshots from the New South Africa. 11.30 Nemesis. 12.00 News; You and Yours. 12.57 Weeking. 10.0 The World at One. 1.30 Round British Culz. 2.00 News; The Archers. 2.15 News: Alternoon Play: Life's Little tronics. 3.00 Money News, Afternoon Play: Life's Little tronies, 3.00 Money Box Live: 0171 580 4444, 3.30 Songlines, 3.45 Box Liver 0171 580 4444, 3.30 Songlines. 3.45
Mercer Preece RA. 4.00 News; The Food
Programme. 4.30 Turning World. 5.00 PM. 5.57
Weether. B.00 Stx O'Clock News. B.30 Tm Sorry I
Haven't a Caue. 7.00 News; The Archers. 7.15 Front
Row. 7.45 Still Waters. 8.00 News; Managing Life.
8.30 Analysis. 9.00 News; Nature: The Big Sleep.
Mark Carwerdine investigate the science behind
body clocks. 9.30 Stant the Week. 10.00 The World
Rolight. 10.45 Book at Bedäme: Another World.
11.00 Fadio 4 Appeal. 11.02 Fatherland. 11.30 Aniel
Views. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: A Men In
Rut. 12.48 Shipping. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30
World News. 5.35 Shipping. 5.40 Inshore Forecast.
5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.
Readio 4 LW
(1984t-1) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00 - 12.04

Radio 4 LW (1984Hz) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00 - 12.04 News Headines; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 2.30 - 8.35 Test Mach Special. Radio 5 Live (623, 908Hz MW) 6.00 Breaklast. 9.00 Nicky Campbell. 12.00 The Middley News. 1.00 Ruscos and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Edra. 7.30 Family Affairs. 8.00 Trevor Brooking's Footbell Forum. 10.00 Late Night Live. 1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

Reports.
Wheld Service Radio
(1984-1: LW) 1.00 Newadeek. 1.30 Seven Days. 1.45
Wood, Gus and Brass. 2.00 Newadey. 2.30 On
Screen. 3.00 World News. 3.05 World Business
Report. 3.15 Sports Roundup. 3.30 The Idea of the City, 4.00 - 7.80 The World Today.

أحداث المناوات والمنطقين والتقيير المناوية

TUESDAY



Ractio 1
97.5-99.8\textit{8-1z} FM) 6.30 Zoe Bail, 9.00 Simon Mayo.
12.00 Kevin Greening, 2.00 Mark Radciffe, 4.00 Chris
Moyles, 8.45 Newsbeat, 8.00 Dave Pearce, 8.00
Steve Lamacq - the Evening Session, 10.00 Digital
Update, 10.10 John Peel, 12.00 The Breezeblock,
2.00 Cive Warren, 4.00 - 6.30 Scott Mile.

Radio 2 (86-90 2MHz FM) **6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 W**ake Up 100-90 2MM2 FM) 0.00 Setten Nettitleo, 7.30 Vanal up to Wogan, 9.30 Ken Bruce, 12.00 John Inverdisle. 2.00 Ed Stewart, 6.05 Johnnie Welker, 7.00 Evelyn Glennie's Classics, 8.00 Nigel Ogden, 9.00 Some Like It Welder, 10.00 Cole Porter, Night and Day, 10.30 Richard Allinson, 12.00 Lynn Parsons, 3.00 - 4.00 Alex Lester. **Radio 3**

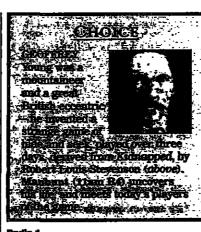
Redile 3 (SO2-82-4M-tz FM) 8.00 On Air 9.00 Masterworks. 10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week. Mozert. 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchdine Concert. 2.00 The BBC Onchestres. 4.00 Volces. 4.45 Music Machine. 5.00 in Tune. 7.45 Performance on 3. Live from the Queen's Hist, Edinburgh, continuing a season of chamber recitate. 8.25 The House of Fear. 8.45 Concert, part 2. 9.40 Postscript. 9.50 BBC Philharmonic. 10.45 Night Wayes. 11.30 Jezz Notes. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Josquin. 1.00 - 8.00 Through the Night. Readile 4

(92 4-94.6MHz FM) 6.00 Today, 8.00 News; The Choice. 9.30 First Nights. 9.45 Serial: Berrows Boys. 19.00 Naws; Woman's Hour. 11.00 News; Nature: the Big Steep. 11.30 Wonderland Girls. 12.00 News; You and Yours. 12.57 Weather, 1.00 The World at Ong. arto yours. Lay vegenre, 1,30 The Archers. 2.15
Atternoon Play: Motor Flight. 3.00 News; The Archers. 2.15
Atternoon Play: Motor Flight. 3.00 News; The
Exchange: 0171 580 4444, 3.30 Songlines. 3.45 The
Volce of the Utile Man. 4.00 News; A Good Read.
4.30 Shop Talk. 5.00 PM. 5.57 Weether. 6.00 Six
O'Clock News, 6.30 Radio Shuttleworth. 7.00 News;
The Archers 7.15 Exchange 1.31 E O'Clock News, 6.30 Radio Shuttleworth, 7.00 News; The Archers, 7.15 From Row, 7.45 Still Westers, 8.00 News; These Little Piggies. As pig/s-heart transplants into humans become increasingly likely and concerns about meet-ening grow, Marina Warner traces a cultural history of the relationships between humans and pigs. 8.40 in Touch. 9.00 News; Case Notes. 9.30 The Choice, 10.60 The World Tonight, 10.45 Book at Bedimer. Another World, 11.00 The Now Show, 11.30 Telling Pictures, 12.00 News, 12.30 The Late Book: A Man in Full, 12.46 Shipping Forecast, 1.00 As World Service, 8.30 World News, 5.35 Shipping Forecast, 5.40 Inshore Forecast, 8.45 Shipping Forecast, 5.40 Inshore Forecast, 5.45 Prayer for the Day, 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today, Redio 4 LW

Radio 4 LW (1984-th 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00 - 12.04 News Headines; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliama 2.30 - 8.35 Test Match Special. Radio 5 Live (693, 909kl-Iz MW) 6.00 Breaklast, 8.30 Test Match

(693, 9034-1z MV) 8.00 Breakfast, 8.30 Test Metch Special, 2.30 Nicky Campbell, 12.00 The Midday News, 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive, 7.00 News Edra, 7.30 The Tuesday Match, 10.00 Late Night Live 1.00 Up All Night, 5.00 – 8.00 Morning Reports, World Service Readio (1984-tz LW) 1.00 Newsdesk, 1.30 Discovery, 2.00 Newsday, 2.30 Meridien (Live), 3.00 World News, 3.05 World Business Report, 3.15 Sports Roundup, 3.30 One Planet, 4.00 – 7.00 The World Today.

WEDNESDAY



(1976-99 M/Hz FM) 6.30 Zoe Ball. 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Kevin Greening. 2.00 Mark Raddiffe. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 5.45 Newsbest. 6.00 Deve Pearce. 8.00 Stave Lamecq - the Evening Session. 19.00 Movie Update with Mark Kermode. 10.10 John Peel. 12.00 Giles Peterson. 2.00 Cive Warren. 4.00 - 6.30 Scott

Radio 2 (88-90-241-1: FM) 6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake Up to Wogen, 9.30 Ken Bruce, 12.00 John Invertale.
2.00 Ed Stawert, 8.05 Johnnie Walter, 7.00 Nick Banaclough, 8.00 Milke Harding, 9.00 The Andy Peebles Soul Show, 10.00 Radio 2 Classic Albums 10.30 Richard Allinson, 11.45 Following My Star.
12.00 Lynn Parsons, 3.00 - 4.00 Alex Laster.

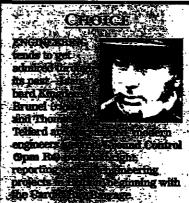
Randie 3
[90 2-92 4M-tz P.N. 8.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks.
10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00
Composer of the Week. Mczert. 1.00 Lunchtime
Concert. 2.00 The BBC Orchestres. 4.00 Choral
Evensorg. 5.00 in Tune. 7.30 Performance on 3.
Thereae Peighan (mszzo), Hugh Tinney (piano). Fall
Ell armor bruje. Nights in the Gardens of Spein; Suite
Homanajes; The Three-Compand Hat Suites Nos 1
and 2. 9.05 Postecipt. 9.15 Robert Wooley, 10.00
Ensemble. 10.46 Nicht Wowe. 11.30 Juzz Notes. Ensemble, 10.45 Night Waves, 11.30 Jazz Notes, 12.00 Composer of the Week: Josquin, 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

9.45 Seriet: Berrow's Boys, 10.00 News; Wormen's Hour. 11.00 News; Manhum. 11.30 Funny Bones. Hour, 11,00 News; Manhunt, 11,30 Furnry Bones, 12,00 News; You and Yours, 12,57 Weather, 1,00 The World at One, 1,30 Wildbrain, 2,00 News; The Archers, 2,15 The Golden Triangle, 3,00 News; Gardeners' Question Time, 3,30 Songénes, 3,45 Gregory's Leap, 4,00 News; Case Notes, 4,30 Thirking Allowed, 5,00 PM, 5,57 Weather, 6,00 Six O'Clock News, 6,30 Booked, 7,00 News; The Archers, 7,15 Front Row, 7,45 Still Watters, 8,00 News; A Life Worth Living, 8,45 Better than Sex, Four writers celebrate a stroke, reactive swellable sensual News; A Life Worth Living, 8.48 Better than Sec, Four writers celebrate a single, readily available sensual experience, 3: Maura Dooley on invitations on the Mantsipisce.9.00 News; Coating the Earth. 9.30 Michweek, 10.90 The World Tonight. 10.45 Book at Beditine: Another World. 11.00 Children's Houz, with Armstrong and Miller, 11.30 Radio Shuttleworth. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: A Man in Full. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 8.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Parming Today. Platellie 4 LW.

Radio 4 LW (1984tz) 9.45 - 10.00 Dally Service. 12.00 - 12.04 News Headines; Shipping Forecast, 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast, 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliamer Radile 5 Live (893, 909k)+iz M(W) 5.00 Breakfast, 8.30 Tast Match

(883, 909-tz MW) 8.00 Brasidast 8.30 Test Match Special, 9.30 Nicky Campbell, 12.00 The Midday News, 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive, 7.00 News Edita, 7.30 John Inverdale's Football hight, 10.00 Littlejohn, 11.00 Late Night Live, 1.00 Up All Night, 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports, World Service Radio (1984-tz LW) 1.00 Newsdek, 1.30 Omnibus, 2.00 Newsdey, 2.30 Meridian (Books), 3.00 World News, 3.05 World Business Report, 3.15 Sports Roundup, 3.30 Brain of Britain, 4.00 - 7.00 The World Today.

THURSDAY



Radio 1 Radio 1 (27 5-39 3::1-1: Ph.) 8.30 Zoe Ball, 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Kevin Greening, 2.00 Mark Radciffe, 4.00 Chris Moyles, 5.45 Newsbed, 6.00 Dave Pearce, 8.00 Stave Lamaco - the Evening Session, 10.00 Trade Update, 10.10 John Peel, 12.00 Andy Kershaw, 2.00 Cive Warren, 4.00 - 8.30 Scott Mills.

85-90 2MHz P. II 6.00 Serah Kennedy, 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan, 9.30 Km Bruce, 12.00 John hverdale, 2.00 Ed Stewart, 5.05 Johnnie Walker, 7.00 David Allan, 8.00 Paul Jones, 9.00 The All Read Show, 9.30 Love 40 - New Bells Please, 10.00 Girls and Guitars, 10.30 Richard Allinson, 12.00 Lynn Parsons, 3.00 -4.00 Allan Lestes 4.00 Alex Lestec

Ractic 3
[9] 2-92 4(1/4): 1-1/1 6.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks.
10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00
Composer of the Week. Mozart. 1.00 Lunchtime
Concert. 2.00 The BBC Orchestres. 4.00 Ensemble.
4.45 Music Mechine. 5.00 in Tune. 7.45 Performence
on 3. Live from the Barbican Centre, London.
Monteverd Choir and Orchestra/John Eliot Gerdiner.
Vivald: Gloria in D. Bacht Cardata No 4 Christ Leg in
Todesbendert. 8.40 The House of Feer. 9.00 Concert,
part 2.9.50 Persteroict. 10.00 Missie Restrong 11.045. part 2, 9.50 Postscript. 10.00 Music Restored. 10.45 Night Waves, 11.30 Jazz Notes, 12.00 Composer of the Week: Jecquin, 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night. Radie 4

MacLean: the Memorex Years, 11,30 New Facilo, 12,00 News, 12,30 The Late Book: A Man in Full, 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Sarvice. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Payer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today. Redit 4 LW

Radio 5 Live (E93, 909kHz MW) 6.00 Breeklast, 9.00 Nicky Campbell, 12.00 The Middey News, 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive, 7.00 News Extra, 7.30 Time of My Lile, 8.00 Inside Edge, 9.00 Hoops, 9.30 Sportshop, 10.00 Late Night Uve, 1.00 Up All Night, 6.00 - 6.00

Morning Reports.
World Service Redie
(1964:tz LW) 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 Composer of the
Month, 2.00 Newsdey. 2.30 Focus on Fatth, 3.00
World News. 3.05 World Business Report, 3.15
Sports Roundup, 3.30 Assignment. 4.00 - 7.00 The
World Today.

(0141-332 1120) 2 Dec. 8pm.

LIONEL RICHIE Solo soul-pop su-perstar, formerly of the Commodores, forms Europe for the first time since 1987. Scottish Exhibition & Con-ference Centre Exhibition Way (0141-248 3000) 1 Dec. 7pm (0990-232001) £25-£40.

MANCHESTER
SQUEEZE, DEAN JOHNSON
Bittersweet South London pop from
Difford, Tilbrook, and Co. Apollo
Theatre Stockport Road
(0161-242 2560) 3 Dec, 8pm,

CHEFFE! D MASSIVE ATTACK Bristol's soulful dub-bop pioneers. Sheffield Arena Broughton Lane (0114-256 5656) 3 Dec. 7pm, £16 50

BBC'S THE CLOTHES SHOW 1998 Fashion and beauty extravagance with 200 live catwaik shows and top designer namee. National Exhibition Centre (0121-780 4133) 4-9 Dec. 9am-6.30pm, 4-6 Dec. £19, 7-9 Dec.

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS PAST Wassaliers, costumed characters, carriage rides, Punch & Judy,

SALFORD OH YES IT IS!" THE PANTOMIME EXHIBITION Tracing the rise of pantomime from its origins in Italian commedia dell'arte to the present day. Ordsall Hall Museum Ordsall Lane (0161-872 0251) Mon-Fri 10am-12.30pm, 1.30pm-5pm,

The Week Josephin, 1,00 - 6,00 Through the Neght.

Realis 4

192 4-94 BMHz FM; 6,00 Today, 2,00 News; in Our
Tirine with Mehym Bragg, 9,30 Shorefres, 9,45 Sedai:
8amow's Boys, 10,00 News; Worman's Houz 11,00
News; Crossing Continents, 11,30 CoMi and
Soames: Bad Apples, 12,00 News; You and Yours,
12,57 Weether, 1,00 The World at One, 1,30 Brain of
Britain 1998, 2,00 News; The Archers, 2,15 Alternoon
Play: Painting Mrs. Jones, 3,00 News; Cell You and
Yours; 0771 589 4444, 3,20 Songlines, 3,46
Freweed, 4,90 News; Law in Action, 4,30 The
Material World, 5,00 PM, 5,57 Weether, 6,00 Stx
O'Clock News, 6,30 Kate and Cindy, 7,00 News; The
Archers, 7,15 Front Row, 7,45 Sell Waters, 8,00
News; Ground Control, 9,30 in Our Time with Mehyyn
Bragg, 10,00 The World Tonight, 10,45 Book at
Bedtimer, Another World, 11,00 The Craditys, 11,15
MacLean: the Memorex Years, 11,30 New Flacio.

(1994): 19.45 - 10.00 Daily Service, 12.00 - 12.04 News Headines; Shipping Forecest, 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecest, 11.30 - 7.00 Today in Parliament, Radio 5 Live

FRIDAY

CHOICE ARTHUR Wharton (right) was Britain's first black footballer, playing for Preston North End. Sheffield United and Rotherham before that. In Looking Back to

Radio 1 [97 5-90 St.frt: FM 6.30 Zoe Bell. 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Kevin Greening. 2.00 Mark Radciffe. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 5.45 Newsbest. 6.00 Pete Tong's Essential Selection. 9.00 Judge Jules. 11.00 Westwood - Radio 1 Pap Show. 2.00 Fablo and Grooverider. 4.00 - 7.00

Arthur (11.30pm R4FM), Paul Allen recalls his career and uses his experience to examine what race means in football today.

185-90 AM: FM) 6.00 Sarah Kennedy, 7.30 Wake Up to Wogen, 9.30 Ken Bruce, 12.00 John Inverdale, 2.00 Ed Stewart, 5.05 Des Lynam, 7.00 Hubert Grego, 7.30 Friday Night is Alvaite Night, 9.15 Wuthering Heights, 9.30 Listen to the Band, 10.00 David Jacobs, 10.30 Sheridan Morley, 12.00 Nicky Horne, 4.00 - 8.00 List Sherme.

David Jacobs. 10.30 Sheriden Morley. 12.00 Nicky Horns. 4.00 - 8.00 Lata Sharma. Readle 3: [90 2-92 July 1: FM) 6.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks. 10.30 Arist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week. Mozert. 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. 2.00 The BBC Orchestries. 4.00 Music Restored. 4.45 Music Mechine. 5.00 in Tune. 7.30 Performance on 3. Live from St David's Hall, Cardiff. Conductor Tadaeld Otatios, Howard Shelley (plano), BBC National Chorus of Wales. William Nephias: Ave rev. Puccini: Mannor Lescut (intermazzo 10 Act 3). Rachmarphov: Phaesacky on a control of the second Intermezzo to Act 3). Rischmannov: Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini. 8.15 The House of Feer. 8.35 Concert, part 2. 9.30 Postscript. 9.40 Chopin. 10.00 Heer and Now. 17.30 Punk Jazz. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Josquin. 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

#Micros 4 (32.4-94.(MHz PM) 6.00 Today, 9.00 News; Decert Island Discs. 9.45 Serial: Surrow's Boys. 10.00 New Island Discs. 9.45 Serial: Barrow's Boys. 10.00 News; Woman's Hour. 11.00 News; Strictly Conventional. 11.30 Girles. 12.00 News; You and Yours. 12.57 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Screen Tacs. 2.00 News; The Archers. 2.15 Afternoon Play: A Memsald at Zennor. 3.00 News; Making History. 3.30 Songlines. 3.45 Feedback. 4.00 News; How the Stories Took Over. 4.30 The Message. 5.00 PM. 5.57 Weather. 8.00 Str O'Clock News. 6.30 Trus Les. 7.00 News; The Archers. 7.15 Front How. 7.45 Still Waters. 8.00 News; Any Questions?. 8.45 Letter from News: The Archers. 7.15 Front Row. 7.45 Still Waters. 8.00 News; Any Questions?. 8.45 Letter from America. 9.00 News; The Friday Play: Waiting for the Earth to Move. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.46 Book at Bedtime: Another World. 11.00 Late Tackle. 11.30 Looking Back to Arthur. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: A Man in Full. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 Leisure Update. 5.56 - 6.00 Weather. RedSe 4 LW (1994:1) 8.45 - 10.00 Deily Service. 12.00 . 12.00

Radio 4 LW

(1984-2) 8.45 - 10.00 Deily Service. 12.00 - 12.04
News Headines; Shipping Porecast. 5.54 - 8.57
Shipping Porecast. 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliament.
Radio 5 Live

(533. 909/Hz M/N 8.00 Breakfast. 8.00 Nicky
Campbell. 12.00 The Middley News. 1.00 Ruscoe and
Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 Alan Green's
Sportsnight, 10.00 Late Night Live., 1.00 Up All Night.
\$.00 - 8.00 Morning Reports.
World Service Radio
(1984-12.1V) 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 To Be Continued.
1.45 Poems by Post. 2.00 Newsday. 2.30 People and
Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.05 World Statiness
Report. 3.15 Sports Roundup. 3.30 Science in Action.
4.00 Newsdask. 4.30 Weekend. 5.00 Newsday. 5.30
Outlook. 5.55 - 6.00 Spotlight.

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THURSDAY TELEVISION

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (96715). 7.00 News (33661). 9.00 Kilroy (5853864). 9.40 Style Challenge (S) (1519116). 10.05 City Hospital (S)(T) (7385593). 10.55 News (T) (4027864), 11.00 Good Living (S) (4037241), 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (4047628). 11.55 News (T) (1) (1952777). **12.00** Pass the Buck (S) (1964338). **12.25** Going for a Song (S) (9620845). **12.50** Weather Show (S)(T) (73495067). **1.00** News (T) (43048). **1.30** Regional News (45792241). 1.40 Neighbours (97708628). 2.05 Ironside (R) (4959816). 2.55 Wipeout (4092574).

3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (9581845) 3.45 Firemen Sam (R) (6752154). 3.55 Augrats (R)(S)(T) (3868593). 4.20 Mr Wymi (S)(T) (1712086). 4.35 Smart (S)(T) (9154425). 5.00 Newsround (S)(T) (2781203). 5.10 Aquila (S)(T) (8404319).

5.35 Neighbours (S)(T) (717406).

6.00 News; Weather (1) (38).

6.30 Regional News (T) (90).

7.00 Watchdog (S)(T) (9154).

7.30 EastEnders (S)(T) (74). 8.00 Animal Hospital (S)(T) (5574).

8.30 2point4 Children (R)(S)(T) (4609).

9.00 Party Political Broadcast by the Liberal Democrats (S)(T) (150390).

9.35 Dinnerladies. Pregnancy scares and stray branflakes upset everyone but Tony

9.05 News; Weather (T) (581086).

and Bren (S)(T) (176338). 10.05 They Think It's All Over (130661).

10.35 Clive Anderson All Talk (245628).

1L05 Question Time (S)(T) (490932).

12.05 CHOICE Dr Strangelove (1964).

Stanley Kubrick's nightmare nuclear war comedy. See Choice, below (T) (138278).

1.45 Joins BBC News 24 (45620346).

BBC2

610 Why Do Peacocks Have porate Trains? (1) (4851777). 6.35 A Vulnerable Life (8973680). 7.00 Garden Fairles (R)(S) (6661593), 7.05 Teletubbies (S) (5662135), 7.30 Tom and Jarry Kids (8594715), 7.55 Blue Peter (S)(T) (1517609). 8.20 Robinson Sucroe (R)(T) (3730338). **8.40** Fiddley Foodle Bird (6917715). **8.55** Gardan Fairles (8433932). 9.00 Job Bank (S) (2903715). 9.10 Belief File (6335135). 9.30 Watch (S) (3873864). 9.45 Come Outside (S) 3878319). 10.00 Teletubbles (R)(S) (29970) 10.30 Storytime (S) (4327883). 10.45 Teaching Today (S) (664864). 11.15 Zig Zag (S)(T) (3258067). 11.35 Lifeschool (S)(T) (8009832). 12.00 Job Bank (S) (3014970), 12:10 Engish File (S) (9816932), 12:30 Working Lunch (93970), 1.00 Fiddley Foodle Bird (S) (21147086), 1:10 The Arts and Crafts Hour (S) (2936672). 2.10 Match of the Day Greats (S) (86693796). 2.40 News (T) (6596777), 2.45 Westminster (S)(T) (1) (039777), 2.43 Vestifished (3)(1) (2177048), 3.25 News (1) (8341629), 3.30 Gardeners' World (F)(S)(1) (96), 4.00 Change That (R)(S)(1) (9514338), 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (S)(1) (9517425), 4.55 Lowri (S)(1) (7472961), 5.30 Today's the Day (S) (67).

6.00 Star Treic Deep Space Nine. Sci-fi drama series (S)(T) (306721).

6.45 Sliders. Sci-fi drama (S)(1) (372609).

7.30 First Sight (16).

8.00 Beat Route (S)(T) (3116).

8.30 Top Gear. (S)(T) (5951).

9.00 Third Rock from the Sun (837777).

9.25 Science at War. The story of the men behind ballistic missiles (S)(T) (895690).

10.15 Vintners' Tales with Jancis Robinson (S)(T) (481932).

10.30 Party Political Broadcast by the Liberal Democrats (S) (528203).

10.35 Newsnight. (1) (231116). 11.15 Late Review (S) (586048). 12.00 Despatch Box (S) (73029). 12.30 Learning Zone (7588758). To 610am.

THURSDAY CHOICE

AN IMPRESSIVE Peter Sellers plays three roles in Dr Strangelove (12.05am BBC1, left), Stanley Kubrick's enduringly corrosive

satire about the madness of the nuclear arms race. As well as the eponymous deranged scientist, Sellers plays the US

president and a British officer, but perhaps the scariest thing about it all is not how Kubrick depicts the impending doom of

the Cold War, but how he makes you laugh at it. An impressive supporting cast

includes George C Scott, Sterling Hayden,

ITV Granada

6.00 GMTV (1621425). 9.25 Trisha (S)(T) (2352116). 10.15 This Morning (T) (803406). 12.15 Granada News (1) 3097203). 12.30 News (T) (97796). 1.00 Home and Away (T) (58538357). 1.25 Christmas Home in the Country (5227593). 2.10 Emmerdale (R)(S)(T) (86680222). 2.40 Dale's Supermarket Sweep (S)(T) (4021086). 3.10 News Headlines (1) (1533222).

3.20 Children's ITV: Wizadora (R) (8320135), 3,30 Kipper (S) (3402796). 3,45 The Adventures of Paddington Bear (S) (6747222). **3.55** Cow and Chicken (3879609). **4.15** Hey Arnold! (S)(T) (4547654). **4.40** Worst Witch (T) (123324f). **5.10** Home and Away (S)(T) (6207970). **5.40** News (T) (985970).

5.55 Granada Tonight (1) (429681).

6.45 Live Challenge 99 (892222).

7.00 Emmerdale. Terry discovers the truth about Scott and Tricia (S)(T) (4222).

7.30 We Can Work It Out (70)

8.00 The Cook Report Special. A special investigation into the bosses of organised car crime (S)(T) (2338).

9.00 Picking up the Pieces. Medical drama. Bemadette learns not to get involved with patients. And it looks like Tony has fallen in love (S)(T) (2574).

10.00 Party Political Broadcast by the Liberal Democrats (1) (480338).

10.05 News: Weather (T) (165357).

10.35 Granada News (T) (378796).

Sky Premier
6.00 Ox Grigo (1993 | 4575; 8.00 Heart of Fre
(1993 | 6595 | 10.00 Mrs Winstroume (1993 | 1030),
12.00 Oxi Grigo (1993 | 4009; 2.00 Mixtur Knows
(1997 (1924), 4.00 Heart of Fire (1995 | 16593),
8.00 Mrs Winstroume (1995 | 6597), 2.20 Hollywood
(1922 (1994 | 8.00 The Presche's Wale (1996 | 6522),
19.00 New 'Disk to Sarrayers (1995 (19835), 11.35
Come See The Pandole (1991 | 40096973), 1.50 Summer of Fire (1996 (2093), 2.25 - 8.00 Children of a
Lester God (1999 (2096))4.

Sky MovieMax
6.00 Season of the Heart 1990 (1724) 7.30 The Double Man (1907) (1906/422), 8.68 The Associate (1906)
(8279) 7.126 Statis for the Plant of the Pipes (1973)
(1906) 7.100 Staty Comes Horse 1990) (4/203)
2.000 Seasons of the Heart (1994) (8772), 4.30 The
Double Man (1907) (8359), 6.30 The Associate (1999)
(1906) 8.30 Et News Weet in Planter (1933), 9.00 Unwed Fether (1997) (8359), 14.00 Dangston Ground
(1997) (1932), 2.20 Seato of Double 1994) (1997), 3.35 8.00 For Dutter and Country (1984) (8364-63).

10.45 Crimefile. (111357). 11.15 Meste Class (101970). 11.45 The Barmy Army Game Show (100241). 12.15 Tales from the Crypt (58346). **12.45** Highlander (R) (4630636). **1.40** Pirate TV (9150758). 2.05 ITV at the Reading stival (2666907). 3.05 Box Office America (R) (49093162). 3.30 The Haunted Fishtank (99927988). 3.55 leirloom (99935907). 4.25 ITV Nightscreen (3192907), 5.30 Morning News (98384). To 6am.

Channel 4

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S)(T) (66999). 9.00 Channel 4 Schools (95883), 11.30 Powerhouse (1) (8154), 12.00 Sesame Street (69425), 12.30 | Dream of Jeannie (95338). 1.00 Judge Joe Brown (69086). 1.30 Train of Thought (50351796).

1.35 Paces to Baker Street (1956). Blind playwright Van Johnson overhears a kidnap plot (1) (57449864).

3.30 Collectors' Lot (1) (64), 4.00 Fifteen to One (1) (99), 4.30 Countdown (5)(1) (9148864), 4.55 Ricki Lake (1) (7474319).

5.30 Pet Rescue Roadshow (T) (35).

6.00 Roseanne (R)(T) (48).

6.30 Hollyoaks (T) (28).

7.00 News; Weather (S)(T) (893777).

7.50 The 1998 Turner Prize: Writing about Art (1) (198947).

8.00 The Italian Kitchen (T) (1512).

8.30 Personal Services. John Pitman

looks at a gardening service for stressed-out Londoners (T) (7319). 9.00 The Body Story. X-ray filming and computer-generated animation help us

to see something of the body's miraculous power of recovery (T) (7661) 9.30 Dispatches. Report on how solicitors convicted of serious wrong-doing may continue to practise (7) (75574).

10.00 Armed and Dangerous (1986). John Candy farce about an excop who joins a security firm (834203).

11.40 Oz (406883). 12.45 Vids (5167907). 1.20 Cup O'Abominations (2479655). 1.25 For the Love of Faith (5176655). 2.25 Kiss Kiss Bang Bang (7626839).

3.10 The Unforgiven (1959). Burt Lancaster western (834203)

4.30 Nothing but the Truth (42636). 5.30 Right to Reply (9360742), 5.55 Sesame Street (9529365). To 7am.

SATELLITE & CABLE

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PAROSE, 8.00 Feb V. GRECO, 8.00 Workington
Le Fordia (50057), 2230 Propose (86467), 200
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Channel 5

6.00 5 News and Sport (S) (5798796). 7.00 WideWorld (R)(S)(T) (6549883). 7.30 Mikshakel (S) (2188883). 7.35 Wanzie's House (R)(S) (6750086). 8.00 Havakazoo (R)(S) (7161338). 8.30 Dappledown Farm (7160609), 9.00 The Antiques Hunter (R)(S)(T) (3794048) 9.25 Postcards (R) (4629406). 9.30 Oprah (8885135). 10.20 Sunset Beach (S)(T) (1032057), 1140 Leaza (R)(S) (8037067), 12.00 5 News at Noon (S)(T) (7164425), 12.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (2785135). 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (S)(T) (6548154), 1.30 Sons and Daughters (2784406), 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (1065086), 2.30 Good Afternoon (S) (2722861).

3.30 Blackbeard the Pirate (1952). Robert Newton stomps round the set, peg-legged and pie-eyed, enjoying himself as the piratical rogue (7187048).

5.20 The Roseanne Show (9654680).

6.00 100 Per Cent (S) (2990425).

6.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (2981777).

7.00 5 News (S)(T) (1036574).

7.30 Watery World. Film about hammerhead sharks (S)(T) (2970661).

8.00 Wing and a Prayer. Legal drama. Simon tries to clear the air with Catherine, but fails miserably. Yasmin leaves Chins in no doubt as to the future of their relationship (R)(S)(T) (6131609).

9.00 Desperado: the Outlaw Wars (1989), Alex McArthur as a frontier loner in this routine TV western series based on the Elmore Leonard stories. With Lise Cutter (S) (38281845).

10.50 Sex and Shopping. Lengthy probe into the porn business. Tonight, Linsey Mackenzie gives her view on what it's like to be a topless model (S) (3270048).

11.20 The Jack Docherty Show (S) (2979241). 12.00 Live and Dangerous (8069723). **12.40** Live and Dangerous (12440433). **4.40** Prisoner: Cell Block H (8719097), 5.30 100 Per Cent (R)(T)

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5.00 For Literary and STORY (F16522, 8.00 Mr. Ludy (P.C.) Principle Comp. Home (1947) (F16522, 8.00 Mr. Ludy (P.C.) 867364, 8.00 Bood on the Moon (1948) (P.S.) 8.30 Free (1930) (P.S.) 1.00 The Hudde (1969) (F19225) 12.25 The French Connection (677) (P.S.) 1.00 Bytend for Coulds (1959) (1930) (P.S.) (P. Sky Sports 1 Sky Sports 1 Sky Sports 2 Sky Sports 5 Sky Sports 1 Sky Sports 5 Sky Sport 5 Sky Sports 3 2.00 thesing (457/99), 1.00 Feb TV (547230), 1.30 Feb TV (455/49) 2.00 Openes (575/10) 2.30 Svy Sport Casson (575/458), 3.30 Powishe Champonips (333302), 4.40 Salah Chabalon James Earl Jones and Keenan Wynn.

News (T) (54655). **9.00** Kilroy (5757636). a Song (S) (9524617). 12.50 Weather Show (S)(T) (73399839). 1.00 News (T) (57742). **1.30** News (45696013). **1.40** Neighbours (97695100). 2.05 ironside (R) (3208128). 2.55 Wipeout (R) (4996346).

3.45 The All New Popeye Show (R) (6656926). 3.55 Dear Mr Barker (S) (3390907). 4:10 Ace Ventura (S)(T) (1136177). 4.35 Record Breakers (S (9058297). 5.00 Newsround (S)(T) (2685075). 5.10 Blue Peter (T) (8391891).

6.00 News; Weather (1) (87).

7.00 Weekend Watchdog (S)(T) (1891).

8.00 Car Wars (S)(T) (7839).

8.30 Clothes Show - Ten Years of Style. Selina Scott looks back at a decade of style (S) (6346).

9.30 Dangerfield. Paige tries to comfort Crammer's mother as his colleague lies

critically if (S)(T) (408723). 10.20 Enter The Dragon (1973). The immortal Bruce Lee's finest film in

12.30 FILM Black Eagle (1988). Jean-Claude Van Damme stars in this kick-

2.05 Joins BBC News 24 (76770211).

BBC2 **6.10 Watering the Desert** (T) (7563346). **7.00** Hairy Jeremy (R)(S) (6565365). **7.05** Telefubbies (S) (5566907). **7.30** Tom and Jerry Kids (8561487), 7.55 Smart (S)(T) (1404181), 8.20 Robinson Surge (R)(T) (4309655), **8.45** Johnson and Friends (R)(S) (3695617), **8.55** Halry Jeremy (R)(S) (337704), **9.00** Storytime (S) (2970487), **9.10** See You, See Me (S) (6299907), **9.30** Watch (S) (3777636). (6239907). 9.30 Watch (5) (377/636).
9.45 Come Outside (5) (3765891).
10.00 Teletubbies (R)(S) (10723). 10.30 Megamaths (5)(T) (8425907). 10.50 Look and Read (5) (8438471). 1130 Lendmarks (S)(T) (3153568). 11.30 English File (S) (5075). 12.00 Testament (S)(T) (46297). 12.30 Working Lunch (65810). 1.00 Johnson and Friends (R)(S) (27146758). 130 The Arts and Crafts Hour (21114758). 130 The Arts and Crafts Hour (S) (1265984). 230 International Tennis (3810636). **3.25** News (8238100). **3.30** Gardeners' World (617). **4.00** Change That (940/810), **4.25** Ready, Steady, Cook (941/297), **4.55** Lown (73767/23), **5.30** Today's the Day (S)(T) (988).

6.00 The Simpsons (R)(S)(T) (487471). **6.25 The Simpsons** (R)(S)(T) (551520).

6.45 Robot Wars (S)(T) (298297).

7.15 Electric Circus (S) (680926).

7.30 CHOCH The Romans in Britain. New historical series. See Choice, below 8.00 The House Detectives (R)(S) (8181).

8.30 Gardening Neighbours. Negotiations start between Catriona and Barbara over the colour of their fence (S)(T) (4988).

9.00 The Fast Show (A)(S) (7810).

9.30 Goodness Gracious Me (T) (52346). 10.00 Have I Got News for You. Satirical

quiz (S) (47926). 10.30 Newsnight (T) (802907). 11.35 Stella Street (S)(T) (749592). 11.30 Later with Jools Holland (47097). 12.30 Cornedy Nation (23259), 1.00 Cafe 21 (8053921). 1.35 Close. 3.00 Learning Zone (40872).

ITV Granada

6.00 GMTV (1525297), 9.25 Trisha (S)(T) (2256988). **10.15** This Morning (T) (259988). **12.15** Granada News (T) (3991075). 12.30 News (T) (59636). 1.00 (3991075). 12.30 News (T) (69636). 1.00 Home and Away (S)(T) (58505029). 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (S)(T) (5121365). 2.10 Emmerdale (R)(S)(T) (86584094). 2.40 Shortland Street (S) (4098758).

3.10 News (T) (1437094). 3.20 Children's ITV: Wizadora (8224907). 3.30 Archibald the Koala (3306568). 3.45 Captain Pugwash (3777297), 4.05 Bernards Watch (1680433), 4.20 Fun House (9409452). 4.50 Top Ten of Everything (2083075). **5.10** Home and Away (6101742). **5.40** News (340100).

5.55 Granada Tonight (T) (8663810).

7.00 Sruce's Price is Right (S)(I) (9487). 7.30 Coronation Street. Less life is in

danger after he helps himself to some drugs (1) (891). 8.00 The Bill. Lennox and Proctor are in competition to take on the case of an assaulted nurse. But can Lennox win

training course? (T) (5933). 9.00 Britain's Most Wanted. Penny Smith and Dermot Mumeghan present a crime appeals programme with reconstructions and features on Britain's most wanted

when he also has to complete his safety

criminals (S)(T) (7549). 10.00 News; Weather (T) (34452).

10.30 Granada News (T) (309181).

10.40 Friday Night's All Wright Joining lan Wright for music and chat are the Marric Street Preachers, Caprice, Greg Rusedski and Paul Cakerriold (S)

11.30 NWA (7453), 12.00 Funny Girls -Serious Business (5495698), 12.35 God's Gift (3041766), 1.35 Club@Vision (S) (6633230). 2.15 World Football (99360). 2.45 seaQuest DSV (2376940), 3.35 Trisha (644314), 4.25 Cybernet (R)(S) (87176105). 4.50 ITV Nightscreen 4429259). **5.30** Morning News (33124). To 6am.

Channel 4

7.00 The Big Breakfast (47365), 9.00 Charnel 4 Schools (249094), 11.30 Here's One I Made Earlier (3471). 12.00 Sesame Street (31365). **12.30** I Dream of Jeannie (T) (67278). **1.00** Judge Joe Brown (T) (40452). **1.30** To Baldly Go (75335891).

150 The Ship That Died of Shame (1955). Gunboat crewmen begin a post-war career as smugglers, but soon regret It. With Richard Attenborough (T) (87333723).

ctors' Lot Special (1) (623). **4.00** Fifteen to One (S)(T) (520). **4.30** Countdown (S)(T) (9042636). **4.55** Ficki Lake (S)(T) (7361891).

5.30 Pet Rescue Roadshow (I) (384).

6.00 TFI Friday (S) (75297).

7.00 News; Weather (S)(T) (989365).

7.55 The Political Slot (466568). 8.00 Garden Doctors (T) (8079).

8.30 Brookside (1) (2384).

9.00 Friends. Joev's duck swallows Ross's vedding ring (T) (9278). 9.30 Streetmate. Davina McCall plays Cupid

in Dublin and Greenwich (S)(T) (70742). 10.00 Frasier (R)(S)(T) (32094), 10.30 Eurotrash (S)(T) (975365), 11.05 Harry Hill (772013), 11.35 TFI friday (965618). 12.40 The Divine David Pres (5135308), 1.45 Pop-up Video (53150),

1.45 Blood from the Munnny's Tomb (1972). Andrew Keir stars in an earnest attempt to breathe fresh life into the creature's exploits. (898766).

3.25 Puk Nimi (R) (4523360).

4.00 [IIII Zoo in Budapest (1933). Loretta Young stars in this vintage whensical romance (6644041).

5.25 Happy Days (2249766), **5.45** T4 (248124), To 645am.

Channel 5

6.00 5 News and Sport (S) (6692568), 7.00 WideWorld (R)(S)(T) (6443655), 7.30 Milkshakel (S) (2082655), 7.35 Wimzle's House (R)(S) (6727758), 8.00 Havakezoo (R)(S) (7058810), 8.30 Dappledown Farm (7057181). 9.00 Floyd Uncorted (S)(T) (7048433). 9.30 Oprah (8789907). 10.20 Surset Beach (S)(T) (9691079). 11.10 Leaza (R)(S) (9331839), **12.00** 5 News at Noon (S)(T) (7068297), **12.30** Family Affairs (S)(T) (2689907), **1.00** The Bold and the Beaufiful (S)(T) (6442926), **1.30**Sons and Daughters (2688278), **2.00** 100
Per Cent Gold (S) (1032758), **2.30** Good
Afternoon (S) (2626433).

3.30 FILM Broken Lufleby (1994). A

cosmetics magnate becomes involved in a Russian Revolution riddle (1) (7074520).

5.20 The Roseanne Show (9558452). 6.00 100 Per Cent (S) (2894297).

6.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (2885549).

7.00 5 News (S)(T) (1930346). 7.30 Frostrup on Friday (S) (2874433).

8.00 Fort Boyard (S)(T) (6028181). 9.00 Lies Before Kisses (1991). Pampered housewife Jaclyn Smith is brought down to earth by revelations concerning her publisher husband. With Ben Gazzara (1) (38185617).

10.50 The People vs Jerry Sadowitz. Unusual talk show (S) (3167520).

11.20 Sins of the Night (1992) Sleazy sex thriller with Deborah Shelton

1.00 Assassin of the Tsar (1991). Malcolm McDowell stars in this disturbing drama about a schizophrenic patient in a Moscow mental hospital (9495124).

comedy about a couple of desperate out-of-work actors (82856143).

2.55 The Shot (1995). A satirical

4.25 The Road (R) (57196037), 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (2014209), 5.30 100 Per Cent (S) (7697018). To 6am.

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FRIDAY TELEVISION

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (51365), 7.00 **9.40** Style Challenge (143988), **10.05** City Hospital (7289365), **10.55** News (T) (4921636), **11.00** Good Living (4931013). **11.25** Can't Cook, Worlt Cook (4934100). **11.55** News (T) (1856549). **12.00** Pass the Buck (S) (9538810). **12.25** Going for

3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (9485617).

5.35 Neighbours (S)(T) (189926).

6.30 Regional News (T) (839)

7.30 Top of the Pops (S)(T) (723).

9.00 News; Weather (1) (6568).

which he enters a martial arts contest to

avenge his dead sister (T) (568075). 12.00 The Stand-Up Show (S) (47327).

boxing movie (985230).

JULIUS CAESAR came, he saw, but he didn't quite conquer. That was to fall to the Emperor Claudius who returned, landing at Richborough Castle in Kent, in AD43. The Romans in Britain (7.30pm BBC2, *left*), a new series from the Open University, attempts to separate fact from fiction about the Romans' sojourn in these isles. Our forebears at the time were pretty serious farmers, while others welcomed the goodies that the Romans brought along their roads. Our guide in this new series is of Guy de la Bédoyère.

Sky Premier \$.00 The Incedite Journey (963) (\$405), 8.00 Lies the York (969) \$5690, 10.00 Shepping Our (\$61) (5692), 12.00 The Incedite Journey (963) (\$445), 2.00 Lies the Told (969) #3810, 4.00 Shepping Our (969) (279), 8.00 Green Card (969) (3591), 8.00 Powder (359) (3093), 10.00 Jerry (Maprin (969) (3339569), 12.20 Sanding Sealiny (196) (92239), 2.20 Fearmates (958) (4970), 4.00 - 8.00 Sricely Business (869) (398222), FRIDAY CHOICE

Sky Moviestax EDG Godding of Love (1983) 59839, 7.30 The Lost 5.00 Goodener of Lave (1988) 99839, 7.20 The Last Best Ver (1992) (7655699) 3.18 Gotion Weather (1997) 1.00 Coddene of Lave (1988) 49503, 3.00 Last Sest Vers (1990) 49278, 3.00 Gotion Weather (1991) 57789, 7400 Previous 6928, 7.20 UK Top Ten (1993) 58798, 7400 Previous (1994) 6930, 4930 1994, 9.00 Areaconsis (1997) (44904, 9.1.20 Particle (1995) 69397, 12.50 Tempora (1993) (1994), 1.29 Morie Magr. 4856498, 3.00 The Fty I (1989) 48004006, (1995) 3.40 - 4.00 The Fty I (1989) 48004006, [46518], 3.50 * 10.00 (78555), 6.00 Call April 10.00 Call

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1.00 - 2.00 Coff - Australian Open (733338).

Siky Sports 2

1.00 Austrice (183827), 7.100 Centre (56558),

2.45 Racing Nines (530628), 8.25 Survival of the Pilast (59258), 8.40 Centre (59278), 9.40 Wast a Newtonian (597783), 9.00 Sportsh Footbal (597783), 9.00 Centre (1988), 9.00 Centre (1988), 9.00 Centre (1988), 9.00 Centre (1988), 4.00 Wat Sports (1

8.30 H2O (50214638) 7.00 Powerbouts (6765729, 7.30 Pare Wolf Sport (54060649, 8.30 Suber Cambathan (4674467, 8.30 Wel Sports (4846210), 10.00 Wiesding (47802636), 12.00 Cost.

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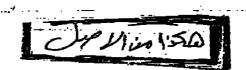
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TUESDAY TELEVISION

BBC1

6.00 Susiness Breakfast (57159), 7.00 News (T) (44333), 9.00 Kiroy (S) (T) (5819420), 9.40 Style Challenge (S) (575772), 10.05 City Hospital (S) (T) (7358449), 10.55 News (T) (4083420), 11.00 Good Living (S) (4000197), 11.25 Can't Cook, Worl' Cook (S) (T) (4003284) Carit Cook, Worlt Cook (S) (T) (4003284). 11.55 News (T) (1918333). 12.00 Pass the Buck (S) (9607994). 12.25 Going for a Song (S) (9686401). 12.50 Weather Show (73451823). 1.00 News (T) (4220). 1.30 Regional News (45765197). 1.40 Neighbours (97764284), 2.05 kronside (S) (6359492), 2.55 Wipeout (4058130).

3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (R)(S) (9547401). 3.45 Bananaman (R)(S) (6794130). 3.50 ChuckleVision (R)(S) (3841826). 4.10 Noath's Island (S)(T) (3892361). 4.35 It'll Never Work (R)(S)(T) (9110081). 5.00 Newsround (S)(T) (2754159). **5.40** Aquita (S)(T) (8460975).

5.35 Neighbours (S)(T) (779642).

6.00 News; Weather (i) (8).

6.30 Regional News (1) (20).

7.00 Holiday (S)(T) (6642).

7.30 EastEnders (S)(T) (84). 8.00 Mysteries with Carol Vorderman

Real-life mystery stories (S)(1) (2062). 8.30 Only Fools and Horses. Classic silcom (R) (S)(T) (1197).

9.00 News; Weather (1) (8081).

9.30 QED. The real-life "science-fiction" story of a bionic woman called Julie who was chosen to have the world's first electronic transplant (S)(T) (26046).

10.00 Ellin Beverly Hills Cop II (1987). Maverick cop Eddie Murphy stars in this action sequel (1) (985604).

11.40 Without a Clue (1989). Ben Kingsley's Dr Watson hires a drunken actor to impersonate Sherlock Holmes With Michael Caine (S)(T) (293420).

1.25 Joins BBC News 24 (97106869). To 6am.

BBC2

6.10 Forest Futures (T) (5451604), 6.45 Business of the Environment (3271265). 7.00 The Little Polar Bear (S) (6634449) 7.05 Telefubbies (S) (5628791), 7.30 Tom and Jeny Kids (8550371), 7.55 Blue Peter (S)(T) (1573265). 8.20 Robinson Sucroe (3796994). **8.40** Oakie Doke (R)(S) (3758130). **8.50** The Little Polar ar (S) (3787642), 9.00 Geography Programme (S) (2969371), 9.90 Working It Out (6391791), 9.30 Clementine (S) (3839420), 9.45 Numbertime (3834975).

10.00 Telestubies (S) (30642), 10.30 Watch (S) (4390739), 10.45 Teaching Today (S) (617352), 11.15 Megamaths (S) (1) (3214623), 11.35 Watch (S) (1457913). **11.50** History File (1434062). **12.10** Higher English (S) (9889888). 12.30 Working Lunch (88604) 1.00 Oakle Doke (S) (2103542) 1.30 The Arts and Crafts Hour (S) (4401008) 2.10 Match of the Day Greats (\$) (86659352). 2.40 News (1) (6552333), 2.45 Westminster (\$)(1) (2133604), 3.25 News (8307284), 3.30 Gerdeners' World (Fij(Si)(T) (6), **4.00** Change That (S)(T) (9570994), **4.25** Ready, Steady, Cook (T) (9573081), **4.55** Lowri (7445807).

5.30 Cricket - the Ashes (S) (7).

6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air (704569)

6.25 Heartbreak High (5)(T) (994081).

750 The Q Zone (R)(T) (279913).

7-30 From the Edge (S)(1) (46).

8.00 University Challenge (S)(I) (8884).

8.30 Delia's How to Cook (S)(1) (9739). 9.00 Back to the Floor. The Director

General of the RSPCA returns to the lowly rank of inspector (S)(T) (6623). 9.30 Modern Times. Fascinating look at

the lengths to which gay couples will go in order to have children (S)(T) (434343).

10.20 Wrappers (S)(T) (227826).

Newsnight (1) (209913), 11.15 BBC Asia Awards (\$)(1) (619538, 12.00 Despetch Box (\$) (68753), 12.30 Learning Zone (68261463), To 6.10am.

TUESDAY CHOICE

FOR SOME columnists the 1998 Turner

Prize (Spm C4, left) has become an annual. opportunity to sound off about what they see as the incomprehensibility of modern art. Introduced by critic Matthew Collings;

this year's award is broadcast live and will

be discussed by a panel including Gregor

Muir from London Electronic Arts and Martin McGeown of the Cabinet Gallery. Tonight's programme will also feature

profiles of the shortlisted artists. Tacita

Dean, Cathy de Monchaux, Chris Offi and

ITV Granada

6.00 GMTV (1687081). 9.25 Trisha (S)(T) (2318772). 10.15 This Morning (863284) 1215 Granada News (3060159). 12.30 News (T) (75130). 1.00 Home and Awa (S) (58594913). 1.25 Christmas Home in the Country (5290449), 2.10 Coronation Street (R) (86653178). 2.40 Dale's Supermarket Sweep (S)(T) (4087642), 3.40 News (T) (1506178).

3.20 Children's ITV: Wizadora (R) (8386791). 3.30 The Singing Kettle (S) (3468352). 3.45 Wolves, Witches and Gierris (R)(S) (6710178). 3.55 Zzzapi (S) (3835265). 4.15 Jurnanji (T) (6947230). 4.40 Out of Sight (S) (T) (1206197). 5.10 Home and Away (S) (T) (6270826). 5.40 News (T) (938468).

5.55 Granada Tonioht (T) (8732994).

7.00 Emmerdale (S)(T) (1710).

7.30 The Mall (1) (72).

8.00 The Bill Monroe finds himself at the sharp end when a routine investigation leads him to vice, drugs and violence in the Chinese community (T) (9826).

9.00 Grafters, Joe's black mood affects nearly everyone. Only Trevor is happy as he enjoy his new lease of life (5)(T)

10.00 News; Weather (T) (57246).

10.30 Granada News (T) (306975).

10.40 In Suspicious Circumstances. With Edward Woodward (1) (587389).

1L40 Granada Tonight: Late Debate (680820). 12.40 The Haunted Fishtank (5299550). 1.15 Planet Rock Profiles (S) (5842111). 1.40 Real Stories of the Fighway Patrol (S) (9116314) 2.05 Smokescreen (1964). Peter

Vaughan stars as an insurance Investigator in this crime drama (1813579).

3.15 Soundtrex (S) (19714284), 3.25 Football League Extra (9404463). 4.20 ITV Nightscreen (2829463). 5.30 News (63208). To 6am.

Sixy Premitter
8.00 Never to Las 1999, (3049), 3.00 Nepotion and
Samantin (2027 (1955), 40.00 Bearent and (907)
(307) (3955), 52.00 The Swine Pricess: the Secret of
the Caste (1997) (90700), 4.20 Never to Last (1969)
(2693710), 3.55 Process and the largic Carnel (984)
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See Dealer (937) (6778), 1.00 Buck and the Magic Beasiet (1879) (6279), 1.00 Buck and the Magic Beasiet (1879) (6279), 1.00 Buck and the Magic Patchies (1879) (6279), 1.00 Buck (1879), 1.00 Buck (1879

Channel 4

6.00 Sesame Street (73197), 7.00 The Sig | Breakfast (S)(T) (60371). **9.00** Channel 4 Schools (T) (820062). **11.30** Powerhouse (1) (2284), 12.00 Sesame Street (5459). 12.30 i Dream of Jeannie (1) (73772). 1.00 Judge Joe Brown (30130), 1.30 St Ives (75404975).

1.50 EIIM Marked Woman (1937). A hostess (Bette Cavis) is pressured to testify against her gangster boss. Drama with Humphrey Bogart and Jane Bryan (1) (87402807)

3.30 Collectors' Lot (1) (94). 4.00 Fifteen to One (1) (71). 4.30 Countdown (S)(T) (9104420). 4.55 Ricki Lake (S)(T) (7430975).

5.30 Pet Rescue Roadshow (S)(T) (65).

6.00 Harry Hill (1) (78).

6.30 King of the Hill (R)(S)(T) (30).

7.00 News; Weather (S)(1) (560333). 7.55 The 1998 Turner Prize: Writing about Art (1) (950866).

8.00 DHODE The 1998 Turner Prize.
Live coverage of Britain's most influential visual arts award. See Choice, below

9.00 Brookside (S)(T) (1791).

9.30 Driven. Motoring news (S)(1) (93536).

10.00 The Young Person's Guide to Bacoming a Rock Star. The Jocks Wa Hey arrive in London, do a deal with Sick Sloan and launch themselves on the media scene (1) (778333).

10.45 Priends. (R)(S)(T) (139159). 11.15 Kiss Kiss Bang Bang (T) (713791).

12.05 IFIM Jeamp the Gem (1996). One of the first films to look at South Africa in the post-Mandela period. With Baby Cele and Lionel Newton (1994604).

2.20 Joe Public (R) (2596111), 2.50 Witness (R)(T) (2424531), 3.45 Two Little Girls and a War. (R) (70274463). 4.00 Schools (T) (58598), To 6am.

3.30 Hollywood Hall of Pame (1657453, 4.00 Francis In the Hauning House (1658, 63055003, 5.20 Case.

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350 - 6.00 Demai Uzele (GPG) ExtREZEG.

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Channel 5

6.00 5 News and Sport (S) (6754352).
7.00 WideWorld (R) (S) (T) (6512739).
7.30 Mikshake! (S) (2151739). 7.35
Wimzie's House (R) (S) (6716842). 8.00
Havekazoo (R) (S) (7127994). 8.30
Dappledown Farm (7126265). 9.00 The Great Garden Game (R)(S)(T) (7117517). 9.30 Oprah Wintrey Show (8841791). 10.20 Sunset Beach (S)(T) (2742343) 11.30 Leeza (R)(S) (8093623). 12.00 5 News at Noon (S)(T) (7120061). 12.30 Family Affeirs (S)(T) (2741791). 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (S)(T) (650-6710). 130 Sons and Daughters (2740062). 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (1021642).

2.30 Good Afternoon (S) (2795517).

3.30 Blyond the Stars (1989). An idealistic youngster played by Christian Stater has his hopes of joining Nasa dashed. With Martin Sheen (S)(T) (7143604).

5.20 The Roseanne Show (9627535).

6.00 100 Per Cent (S) (2956081).

5.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (2947333).

7.00 5 News (S)(T) (1092130).

7.30 Watery World. Film of shark, stingray, moray eel and octopus living in "torests" of kelp, deep in the Pacific Ocean off California (S)(T) (2943517).

8.00 Are You Being Cheated? Charlotto Hudson watches more sneaks and cheats and follows benefits agency inspectors as they catch people claiming benefits while working (S)(T) (1018178).

8.30 What's the Story? (1020913).

9.00 FILM The Beast of War (1988) A disabled Soviet tank blunders through the Afghan desert in this brutal war film with George Dzundza (S)(T) (6190352).

11.00 The Jack Docherty Show. (S) (2922333), 11.40 The Streets of San Francisco (R) (1917028). 12.40 Live and Dangerous (\$) (7332919). 1.20 Live and Dangerous (\$) (13450032). 3.45 Asian Football Show (9278111). 4.40 Prisoner; Cell Block H (5165573). 5.30 100 Per Cent (R)(\$) (7759802). To 6am.

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WEDNESDAY TELEVISION

ITV Regions

6.00 Business Breakfast (42227). 7.00 News (1) (74161). 9.00 Kiroy (5886192). 9.40 Style Challenge (S) (1542444). 10.05 City Hospital (S) (1) (7318621). 10.55 News (1) (4050192). 11.00 Good Living (3) (4077869). 11.25 Can't Cook, World Cook (5) (1) (4070956). 11.55 News (1985005). 12.00 Pass the Buck (5) (9574866). 12.25 Going for a Song (9653173). 12.50 Weather Show (S) (1955/173), 12.50 Weather Show (S) (17) (73428395), 1.00 News (15598), 1.30 Regional News (45732869), 1.40 Neighbours (97731956), 2.05 Ironside (3712884), 2.55 Wipeout (4025802),

> 3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (9514173) Own Back (7/9/5/3). **4.35** The Queen's Nose (S)(T) (9/87/53). **5.00** Newsround (T) (27/4531). **5.10** Blue Peter (843/647).

5.35 Neighbours (S)(T) (281734).

6.00 News; Weather (1) (89).

6.30 Regional News (1) (89). 7.00 A Question of Sport (S)(T) (8579).

8.00 The Life of Birds. David Attenborough's amazing series tackles the question of how birds find

8.50 The National Lottery: Amezing

and Penalties. Memories of this summer's epic World Cup encounter between England and Argentina (524111).

10.20 War and Piste (S)(T) (682375).

10.50 Dimbleby Lecture (S) (733227).

11.35 The Mean Machine (1974) Burt Reynolds stars in this black comedy set in a US prison (106395).

1.35 Joins BBC News 24 (10513932).

BBC2

Sam Taylor-Wood

8.45 A New Way of Life (90444), 6.45 Business of the Environment (3248937), 7.00 King Greenlingers (R) (S) (6894821), 7.05 Teletubies (5695463), 7.30 Torn and Jerry Kids (8527043). 7.55 To Me... to You (R) (T) (1540937). 8.20 Robinson Surge (R)(S)(T) (3783666), 8.40 Juniper Jungle (R) (T) (3725802), 8.50 King Greeningers (S) (3754314), 9.00 Space Ark (R) (2936043), 9.10 What? Where? Whey? (2923579), 9.25 Who – Me? (S) (6381314), 9.45 Words and Pictures (S) (3801647), 10.00 Telstubles (S) (3801647), 10.00 Telstubles (68192), **10.30** Numbertime (S) (4350111), **10.45** Walch (4355666), **11.00** Around 10.45 Watch (435586). 11.00 Around Scottand (5) (4734). 11.30 Geography Programme (3799550). 11.40 Science in Action (5)(1) (1405550). 12.00 Teaching Today (5) (13579). 12.30 Working Lunch (49.482). 1.00 Juniper Jungle (R)(5) (21170314). 130 Arts and Crafts Hour (5) (8531460). 2.40 Match of the Day Greats (5) (9550000). 4.40 Nove, 65500000. (S) (86626024). **2.40** News (6529005). **2.45** Westminster (S)(T) (3323647). **3.55** News (9537289), **4.00** Change That (9547669), **4.25** Ready, Steady, Cook (9540753), **4.55** Esther (R) (742579).

5.30 Cricket - the Ashes (S) (18).

6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation. Sci-fi drama series (R)(S)(T) (521821).

8.45 Siders. Sci-fi drama (S)(1) (837289).

7.30 CHOICE Behind Closed Doors. Europe's only exclusive club for women. See Choice, below (S)(T) (95).

8.00 Looking Good (R)(S)(T) (5869).

8.30 Home Front. Tessa Shaw presents the home decorating show (S)(T) (4376). 9.00 Murae. The students begin to specialise in their chosen areas and are now

working full weeks (S)(T) (670005). 9.50 Naked Does fear of ageing fuel obsession with weight, fitness, fertility and attraction? (S)(T) (791956).

10.30 Newsnight (1) (711005).

1145 Brothers and Sisters (S) (147666). 12.00 Despatch Box (S) (12241). 12.30 Learning Zone (88238135). To 6:0am.

WEDNESDAY CHOICE

ITV Granada

12.15 Granada News (3020531), 12.30 News; Weather (T) (43208), 1.00 Home

3.30 The Slow Norts (S) (3435024).
3.45 The Animal Shelf (S) (3435024).
4.00 Rupert (R)(S) (953492). 4.25 The Rottentrolls (S)(T) (1739753). 4.40 Madior it (S) (1273869). 5.10 Home and Away (S)(T) (6247598). 5.40 News (T) (433260).

5.55 Granada Tonight (T) (8709666).

7.00 Emmerdale. Kathy's strance behavious

brunt of Greg's anger when he snaps under pressure while drunk (1) (21).

8.00 Celebrity Stars in Their Eyes. Celebs enjoy themselves impersonating other stars (S)(T) (7173).

es with male stars (T) (7937).

10.30 Granada News (1) (834005).

10.40 Clive James on TV. Clive James

12.50 Fort Apache, the Bronx (1981). A best cop, played by Paul Newman, clashes with the new police

3-00 Trisha (R) (7806970). 3-45 Cybernet (S) (21680), 4.15 Stash (46754222), 4.20 ITV Nightscreen (2896135), 5.30 News (17796). To 6am.

Sky Movieliax

Channel 4

6.00 Sesame Street (35937). 7.00 The Big Breakfast (S)(T) (98821). 9.00 Channel 4 Schools (T) (365482), 11.30 Powerhouse (T) (3901). 12.00 Sesame Street (72727). 30 I Dream of Jeannie (T) (34550). 1.00 Judge Joe Brown (1) (24668), 1.30

The Voice-over Queen (45709531). 1.50 Fill Kentucky (1938). A family feud dating back to the American Civil War is sorted out by Romeo-and-Julietstyle lovers Loretta Young and Richard Greene, while one trains the other's horse for the Kentucky Derby (1) (75/19024).

3.30 Collectors' Let (1) (43), 4.00 Fifteen to One (1) (50), 4.30 Countdown (1) (9171192), 4.55 Ricki Lake (1) (7407647).

5.30 Pet Rescue Roadshow (1) (14). 6.00 Late Lunch with Mel and Sue. Mel Giedroyc and Sue Perkins with celebrity

chat and a spot of cooking (59869). 7.00 News; Weather (S)(T) (8)6163).

7.55 The 1998 Turner Prize: Writing about Art (T) (582956).

8.00 Brookside. Ron is determined to tell D-D about Harry but is puzzled by Anthea's reaction (S)(T) (5127).

8.30 The Real Holiday Show, Revealing video diaries of holidays in London, Spain and Portugal (T) (9444).

9.00 Drop the Dead Donkey. Henry finds new fame as an icon of youth TV. Dave dabbies in the underworld and gambles with his future. Gus is still in denial (9666).

9.30 is it Legal? Coin encourages the office to spend a Japanese-style evening bonding with their partners. Then some money goes missing (S)(T) (54314).

10.00 Rising Dame (1) (55096).

fLOO Whose Line is it Anyway? (S)(T) (411), 11.30 The Cornedy Lab (59444), 12.00 Under the Moon (6472290), 3.55 Sesame Street (9635593). To 7am.

10.30 Bob and Margaret (S)(T) (18024).

Channel 5 6.00 5 News and Sport (S) (6721024). 7.00 WideWorld (R)(S) (6572111). 7.30 Mikshakel (S) (211111), 7.35 Winzie's House (R)(S) (6783314), 8.00 Havakazoo (R)(S) (7194666), 8.30 Dappledown Farm (7193937). **9.00** Housebusters (R)(S)(T) (3727376). **9.25** Hogarth's Chiswick (R) 4652734). 9.30 Oprah (8818463). 10.20 Sunset Beach (S)(T) (6047555). **11.10** Leeza (R)(S) (8060395). **12.00** 5 News at Noon (S)(T) (7/97753). **12.30** Family Affairs (R)(S)(T) (2718463). **1.00** The Bold and the Beaufifut (S)(T) (6571482). **1.30** Sons and Daughters (2717734). **2.00** 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (1098314). **2.30** Good Afternoon (S) (2762289).

3.30 How I Spent My Summer Vacation (1990). This teen comedy with a jaded summer camp setting stars Chad

Aften (S)(T) (7110376). 5.20 The Roseanne Show (9694208).

6.90 100 Per Cent (S) (2923753). 6.30 Family Affairs. Pamela is jealous when she finds out about Susia and Nick. Cliff

tries to patch up his relationship with Jamie (S)(T) (2914005).

7.00 5 News (S)(T) (1069802). 7.30 The Pepsi Chart. Dr Fox presents the latest sounds from London's Sound

Republic (S) (2910289). 8.00 The Sweeney. Another outing for John Thaw And Dennis Waterman in the Seventies police drama. This time hard man Regan's investigation takes an unexpected turn when he is seduced by a

glamorous foreigner (T) (6164937). 9.00 Freeble and the Bean (1975). James Caan and Alan Arkin as a mismatched pair of cops do their utmost to raze San Francisco to the ground white in pursuit of a felon (S)(T) (42689840).

11.05 Melinda's Big Night in (S) (2998376). **11.45** The Streets of Sen Francisco (S) (2245482). **12.45** los Hockey - N-H. '98 (S) (12561970), 4.40 Club Class (R)(S) (81164067). 5.05 Move On Up (R)(S) (1983-4338), 5.30 100 Per Cent (R)(S)

(7726574). To 6am.

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3.45 Bananaman (R) (S) (6761802). 3.50 Chucklevision (3818596). 4.40 Get Your

7.30 Tomorrow's World (S)(T) (53).

themselves mates (S)(T) (186753).

Luck Stories (S)(T) (590260).

9.00 News; Weather (6956). 9.30 Where Were You: Passion, Pride

THE WOMEN'S University Chib in Maylair. is examined tonight in Behind Closed Doors (7.30pm BBC2, left) H's Britain's and, indeed, Europe's - only exclusive chib for women. And not just any women, it should be added, but specifically high achievers (the founder members, in 1887. included the first principals of Oxford's women's colleges). Shella Hancock is one of our guides - There are some very checky ladies around with wild and revolutionary ideas," she reckons. Just quite how wild and revolutionary remains to be seen.

6.00 GMTV (1654753), 9.25 Trisha (S)(T) (2385444), 10.15 This Morning (391314). and Away (S) (5851685). 1.25 Christmas Home in the Country (5250821). 2.40 Emmerdale (R) (88613550). 2.40 Dale's Supermarket Sweep (S) (T) (4054314). 3.40 News Headines (T) (1566550).

3.20 Children's ITV: Wizadora (8353463).

horrifies her friends (S)(T) (3647). 7.30 Coronation Street. Sally bears the

9.00 Men for Sale. Unka Jonsson and Denise Van Outen host a charity auction in which an all-ternale audience bids for

10.00 News; Weather (T) (55014).

takes a look back at some classic sticoms (S) (794647). 11.10 Granada Soccer Night (5) (933396). 12.40 ITV Sport Classics (6933929).

chief in this gritty and realistic drama (94048375).

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8.66 Mystery Bolence Theates 2000: the Mode (1895)
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SUNDAY TELEVISION

BBC1

7.00 The Pink Panther Show (R) (1472897). 7.20 Match of the Day (S)(1) (8612691) **8.30** Breakfast with Frost (S)(T) (66962), **9.30** Advent Hope (S) (1813146), **10.30** The Life of Birds (S)(T) (8016320); **11.00** Porridge (R)(T) (5146). **11.30** CountryFile (S)(T) (6875). **12.00** On the Record (S)(T) (13900); **1.00** EastEnders (R)(S)(T) (2486455).

2.25 Escape to Athena (1979).
Affect POWs art-heist escape from
German-held Greek island (11076875).

4.40 The Pink Panther Show (421165). 4.45 Children of the New Forest (S)(1) (921078), 5.15 News (T) (8202962), 5.35 Regional News (833691)

5.40 Songs of Praise (S)(T) (701184).

6.15 Last of the Summer Wine. Longrunning sitcom (R)(S)(T) (935271).

6.45 Antiques Roadshow (S)(1) (464436).

7.30 Wildlife on One. Film following a group of wild boars in Poland (R)(S)(T) (455).

8.00 Ballykissangel. Namh leaves Ambrose holding the baby (S)(T)

8.50 Keeping Up Appearances. Richard is pressed into service at the church hall (R)(S)(T) (794558).

9.20 News; Weather (T) (446455).

9.30 Vanity Fair. Becky enists the help of Lord Steyne as she begins her assault on London society (S)(T) (15707).

10.30 CHOICE Everyman. Film marking the 10th anniversary of the Lockerbie plane crash follows American Michelle Ciula as she visits the town where the body of her father was found. See Choice, below (S)(T) (4603349).

11.45 Gorillas in the Mist (1988). Sigourney Weaver stands up to poachers while studying rare mountain gorillas in this imposing drama (T) (64319252).

1.50 Joins BBC News 24 (30427905).

BBC2

7.30 Teletubbles (S) (1704900). 8.10 Wham! Barni Strawberry Jami (R)(S) (7993726). 8.25 The Artbox Bunch (R)(S) (7981981). 8.40 Terrible Thunderlizards (R)(S)(T) (6503287) 8.50 The locredible Hulk (R)(S) (8477829). 9.15 Casper (S) (2182558). 9.40 The Queen's Nose (S)(T) (9978691). 10:10 Wayne Manifesto (R)(S) (3724894). 10.35 Grange Hill (R)(S)(T) (\$846287). 11.00 Sort II (\$) (\$892542). 11.25 Grange Hill (R) (\$) (T) (\$311639). 11.50 O Zone (\$) (7534368). 12.05 Simpsons (R)(S)(T) (4422610). **12.30** Robot Wars (S)(T) (41897). **1.00** Around Westminster (57477). 1.30 Grandstand (S) (59917691). 1-35 Cricket - the Ashes (67498097), 2.05 Snooker and Rugby Union (69599558). **5.10** The Animal Zone (S) (4086691). **5.20** Watch Out Britain (S) (9632504), **5.25** Big Cat Diary (S)(T)

5.50 The Natural World (\$)(1) (263349).

6.45 Star Treic Voyager. Tuvok creates a holo-novel based on a theoretical mutiny aboard the ship (S)(T) (462078).

7.30 The Money Programme. A look at Government plans to tighten the law to help disabled people get jobs (S)(T) (487).

8.00 Snooker: Liverpool Victoria UK Championship. Live coverage of the final Commentary from Clive Everton, Ray Edmonds, John Virgo and Dennis

10.30 Whatever Happened to the Likely Lads? The death of disreputable old Uncle Jacob is received by the Coller family with a mixture of regret and relief The funeral gives Bob an insight into his own future (R)(T) (83271).

11.00 Clarkson. Controversial talk show presented by Jeremy Clarkson. In this programme, he takes on Scotland's Kave Adams, plus Watchdog supremo Anne Robinson (S)(T) (761542).

11.40 FILM That Night (1992). Surrener of 1961 romance for Juliette Lewis and C. Thomas Howell (S)(T) (47647405).

2.00 Learning Zone (41195943). To 6.10am.

ITV Granada

6.00 GMTV (93558). 8.00 Diggit (3743184). 9.25 House of Toons (R)(S)(T) (2002368). 9.50 Power Rangers Turbo (T) (9737894). 10.15 Finders Keepers (R)(S)(T) (759788). **10.45** Minty (S)(T) (854287). **11.15** Morning Worship (S)(T) (539146). 12.15 Link (S)(T) (3226691). 12.30 Soccer Sunday (96233), 1.00 News; Weather (T) (98781639), 1.10 Jonathan Dimbleby (S)(T) (5868504). 2.00 Granada News and Weather (T) (50992981). 2.05 The Sunday Supplement (71744225). 2.35 Fashion Tribute: A Celebration of the Life and Work of Vivienne Westwood (2826271). 3.05 Wild North (7662368), 2.35 Murder, She Wrote (S) (1525441), 4.35 An Audience with All Saints (4937928).

5.30 Coronation Street (R)(I) (75271).

6.30 Cartoon (883981).

6.40 Granada News (1) (158707).

6.45 News; Weather (T) (261959). 7.00 Dog Squad (T) (8829).

7.30 Coronation Street (T) (523)

8.00 You've Been Framed! (S)(I) (1349) 8.30 Heartbeat. Mike is compromised by a romantic liaison (S)(T) (43894).

9.30 Cold Feet. All three couples won't that their love lives have gone off the boil (S)(T) (72225).

10.30 Sermon from St Albion's (469894).

10.40 News; Weather (T) (552558). 10.55 The South Bank Show. (S)(T)

(548368). 11.55 Sunday Night (836320) 12.55 In Bed with Medianer (4738740).

1.40 The Freshman (1990). Student Matthew Broderick is made an offer he should have refused... With Marlon Brando (S)(1) (376924).

3.30 H2O (53653), 4.00 International Motor Racing (R) (9655419). 4.55 ITV Nightscreen (1933059). 5.30 Morning News (76382). To 6am.

Skry Premier
4.00 Fember Flates SP64, 6-30 Fear No Tail of
Ammera (1885) 83303, 8-30 We the Juny (1896) 84455,
18-30 Beath of the Rusen Fur II (1830) 28551, 18-30
Hollywood Buzz (4707) 1-00 Marc Learna (1885)
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the Rusen Part II (1890) (1897) 1-200 Carpool (1989)
68503, 3-00 Berry Morranto Firm (1897) 57844, 9-30
Gat Shorty (1899) (1997), 18-50 Wallern SpheepserdRoman and Judy (1896) (1895) 25742, 18-35
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Channel 4

6.15 Camberwick Green (R)(T) (1674766). 6.35 Frootie Tooties (R) (748829), 6.45 Dog City (R)(S) (9472813), 720 T4 (2030455), 7.35 Tintin (2837349), 8.05 Johnny Bravo (R) (1484320). 8.35 Sister Sister (1522726), 9.05 Wise Up (1) (2492436), 9.40 Planet Pop (9748900). 10.00 The Waltons (R)(T) (51233). 11.00 Hollyoaks (R)(S)(T) (984184). 12.10 Late Lunch with Mel and Sue (1) (1467815). 1.15 Football Italia (33054504). 3.30 It's Only a Game (T) (9379558).

4.05 Hill It Came from beneath the Sea (1955). Giant octopus sits on San Francisco in Ray Harryhausen's

5.35 FILM Run Silent, Run Deep (1958). Clark Gable is at loggerheads with heutenant Burt Lancaster in wartime submarine drama (58394504)

7:15 Joe Public. Joe Layburn helps a former fisherman who sank all his savings into purchasing a trawler, only to discover it was a death trap (92465).

7.45 HODE Lockerbie - a Night Remembered. Documentary to mark the 10th anniversary of the explosion of Pan Am Flight 103 over the Scottish community of Lockerbie. The locals describe the night of the disaster, and how it has affected their lives. See Choice, below (707610).

8.45 Rory Brewner... Who Else? Topical sketches and stand-up (696894).

9.30 Fever Pitch (1996). London schoolteacher Colin Firth is obsessed by Arsenal Football Club. New colleague Puth Gemmell falls for him (T) (483349)

11.25 It's Only a Game (837271), 11.55 Dark Skies (R)(S)(T) (834962). 12.55 Babylon 5 (R)(S)(T) (2630634).

1.50 Hamaara Sansaar (1978). Hindi domestic drama (95624837).

4.10 City of Bricks (R) (5255653), 5.05 Bombay Chat (R) (1293653), 5.35 Hangiri with Mr Cooper (R)(S)(T) (4400740), 5.55 Sesame Street (3673127), To 7am.

Channel 5

6.00 Virgin Gardeners (R)(S) (1313349). 6.30 Havakazoo (R)(S) (3653813), 7.00 Dappledown Farm (R) (6140829). 7.30 Mikshake! (S) (6210441). 7.35 Wimzie's House (R)(S) (1581165). 8.00 To Be Announced (2474707), 8.30 Surrogacy -What's the Story? (R)(S) (2473078), 9.00 Stickin' Around (2560558), 9.30 Fort Slocki Arotic (230336), 10.30 Sister Said (S) (2486542), 11.00 Dana (R)(S) (8473962), 11.30 Singled Out (S) (8474891), 12.00 The Mag (S) (92410078), 1.10 5 News (S)(T) (65244392). 1.20 The Movie Chart Show (S) (54239320). 1.50 Miss World 1998 (R)(S) (30271875). 3.10 Family Alfairs

5.25 The Seventh Voyage of Sinbad. (1958). Superior, scary lantasy with Kerwin Mathews battling wicked magician Torin Thatcher (T) (46707639).

Omnibus (R)(S)(T) (26073982).

7.00 We Are Family. Vanessa Collingridge meets people who are part of gay families. One woman recalls the day her lesbian lover's six-year-old son first asked if he could call her dad. Now she regularly receives Father's Day cards

7.30 Serious Money. Advice on making the most of your cash (S) (5117146)

8.00 Paradise in Peril. Film following the dramatic events during a four-year drought in Tsavo National Park, Kenya

9.00 Film Co-ed Call Girl (1995) Student Tori Spelling joins escort agency in this teledrama, allegedly based on real life. It all comes out in court. With Scott Plank (S)(T) (81894813).

10.50 The Comedy Store. Stand-up comedy, with Arj Barker, Paul Thorne. Andy Robinson and Steve Gribbin (S)

11.20 Sports Talk with Steve Scott (S) (4930455). 11.50 Ice Hockey - NHL 98 Chicago Blackhawks vs Calgary Flames (S) (15209436). 4.40 Tibs and Fibs (R)(S) (92550856), 5.05 Move On Up (R)(S) (47522672). 5.30 Senous Money (S) (1370634), To 6am.

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marking the 10th anniversary of the blowing-up of Pan Am Flight 103 over the Scottish village of Lockerbie. Everyman (10-30pm BBC1) has "Surviving Lockerbie", which sees Michelle Ciulla going back over the disaster in which her father died. In Channel 4's equally moving offering from Mike Grigsby, Lockerbie: A Night Remembered (7.45pm C4), locals recall the awful night and how it has changed their lives and everybody in the village remembers where they were at the time.

SUNDAY CHOICE

THERE ARE two programmes tonight

SATELLITE & CABLE

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(1957) (2952/34 4,30 Coulde Dystans (1951)
(3952/35) 4,30 Coulde Dystans (1951)
(3963/35) 8,500 The Dark Marco (1948) (1926/35) (1,000 The Back
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MONDAY TELEVISION

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (39363). **7.00** News (T) (49437). **9.00** Kiroy (S) (T) (8121547). **9.40** Style Challenge (S) 9964498). 10.05 City Hospital (S)(T) (9091011). 10.55 News (T) (9851295). 11.00 Good Living (S) (9861672). 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (S) (T) (9871059). 11.55 News (T) (1983194). 12.00 Pass the Buck (S) (4409769), 12.25 Going for a Song (S) (4488276) **12.50** Weather Show (S)(T) (28817568) **1.00** News (T) (99914) **1.30** Regional News (73824030). 1.40 Neighbours (S)(T) (67443547). 2.05 Ironside (R) (9603837). 2.55

3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (R)(S) (6552214). **3.45** Enchanted Lands (R)(S) (8045108). **3.55** Little Monsters (S) 3117769). 4.00 The Animal Magic Show (S)(T) (4214127). 4.15 Alvin and the Chipmunks (S)(T) (9764769), 4.40 Goosebumps (S)(T) (2827011), **5.00** Newsround (S)(T) (4066837), **5.40** Blue Peter (S)(T) (5371634).

Nipeout (R)(S) (2896030).

5.35 Neighbours (S)(1) (334276).

6.00 News; Weather (T) (951).

6.30 Regional News (1) (363).

7.00 This is Your Life (S)(1) (7479).

7.30 Here and Now (S)(T) (547). 8.00 EastEnders (S)(1) (6127).

8.30 Birds of a Feather (S)(1) (5634).

9.00 News; Weather (1) (3498).

9.30 Men Behaving Badly (S)(T) (41450). 10.00 Panorama (1) (455653).

10.40 They Think It's All Over (S)(T) (878059). 11.10 On Side (S) (283295). 11.55 Chicago Hope (S)(T) (176189). 12.40 Weird Science (S)(T) (4431517).

1.05 The incredible Shrinking Woman (1981). Housewife Lily Tomlin shrinks in a smug cornedy (T) (8584536).

2.30 Joins BBC News 24 (1752468).

BBC2

6.35 The Celebrated Cyfarthfa Ban (9430637). **7.00** Wiggly Park (5286108). **7.05** Teletubbies (S) (2080450). **7.30** Tom and Jerry Kids (2899189). 7.55 Blue Peter (S)(T) (5191479), 8.20 Robinson Sucroe (S)(T) (9784924), 8.45 Penny (S) (5) (6499030). **8.55** Wiggly Park (S) (5988301). **9.00** Job Bank (S) (7096276). **9.10** Short Circuit (S)(T) (5474450); **9.30** Writing and Pictures (S)(I) (8048769); **9.45** Storytime (S) (8036924); **10.00** Teletubbles (R)(S) (85856). **10.30** Words and Pictures (S) (3667450). **10.45** Watch (S) (3662905). **11.00** Look and Read (S) (9363092). **11.20** Zig Zag (S)(T) (4742295) **11.40** Landmarks (S)(T) (1711092) **12.05** History File (S)(T) (4499382) **12.30** Working Lunch (69856). **1.00** Permy Crayon (R)(S) (98754585). **1.10** The Arts and Crafts Hour (S) (2244672). **2.10** and Crairs nour (s) (224672), 230 Match of the Day Greats (S) (18169672), 2.45 On Cue (S) (5534547), 3.25 News (T) (7318127), 3.30 Gardeners' World (R)(S)(T) (789), 4.00 Change That (R)(S)(T) (3185160), 4.25 Ready, Steedy, Cook (S)(T) (3195547), 4.55 Lowri (S)(T) (5953721).

5.30 Cricket - the Ashes (S) (740).

6.00 The Simpsons (R)(S)(T) (6490tt).

6.25 Space 1999 (T) (693498). 7:15 Hit, Miss or Maybe (R)(S) (8:35276).

7.30 Sound Stories. The story behind an Irish memorial concert (S)(T) (189).

8.00 The Essential Guide to Rocks. Series on geomorphology (S)(1) (4769).

od and Drink. Nick Naim cooks up a St Andrew's Day dinner (S)(1) (3276).

9.00 The Cops. Natalie and Mike are still in conflict with Skillet (S)(T) (370837).

9.50 Ads Infinitum (S)(1) (462450). 10.00 Big Train. Sketch show (S)(T) (34672).

10.30 Newsnight. (T) (880585), 11.15 On Air: The Truth about TV (290108), 12.00 Despatch Box (39046), 12,30 Learning Zone (88294791). To 6:0am.

ITV Granada

6.00 GMTV (9578059), 9.25 Trisha (S)(T (1521996). **10.15** This Morning (T) (437566). **12.15** Granada News (T) 3293363). **12.30** News (T) (56382). **1.00** Home and Away (S)(T) (39341059). 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (S)(T) (7691301). 240 Coronation Street (R)(T) (52525238). 240 Shortland Street (S) (2892214). 340 News Headlines (T) (2325837).

3.20 Children's ITV: Wizadora (R) (2338301). 3.35 Titch (S) (7787189). 3.50 Sooty & Co (S)(T) (2976905). 4:15 Art Attack (S)(T) (45166), 4.45 Sabrina, the Teenage Witch (S)(T) (7326479), 5.40 Home and Away (S)(T) (4285740), 5.40 News; Weather (T) (519030).

5.55 Granada Tonight (I) (5145943).

7.00 Wheel of Fortune (S)(I) (2547).

Coronation Street. Zoe warns Ashley against forcing her to choose between him and her new friends (T) (943).

8.00 World in Action. The investigative current affairs programme examines safety in the air (S)(T) (1295).

8.30 Great Escapes. Real-life video action of escapes from death and disaster, with Martin Brundle (S)(T) (3030). 9.00 Vice - the Sex Trade. The final part of this investigation into prostitution uses

hidden cameras to reveal the extent of

brothels in London (S)(T) (4479). 10.00 News; Weather (T) (38498).

10.30 Granada News (T) (903585).

10.40 Veronica's Closet. American sitcom. Olive and Ronnie audition for a holiday chorus (S)(T) (863127).

Dharma and Greg (S)(T) (359740). **11.40** Stuff the Week (S) (764818). **12:** Public Morals (5586994). **12.45** Nationwide Football League Extra (161230). 1.45 World Football (9148913). 2.40 Club@Vision (S) (3448772), 2.50 Trisha (R)(S)(T) (9057420), 3.35 World in Action (S)(T) (99011371), 4.00 Soundtrax (S) (87268130), **4.20** ITV Nightscreen (2862791), **5.30** News (91081). To 6arm.

Channel 4

The Big Breakfast (S)(T) (25585). 9.00 Channel 4 Schools (T) (418924). 11.30 Here's One I Made Earlier (R)(S)(T) (2841). 12.00 Sesame Street (28011). 12.30 | Dream of Jeannie (T) (54924) 1.00 Judge Joe Brown (28672). 1.30 Sunny Spelis (59919059).

135 EIIM Woman Obsessed (1959). Widow Susan Hayward falls for handyman Stephen Boyd (T) (62676547).

3.30 Collectors' Lot (837), 4.00 Fifteen to One (672), 4.30 Countdown (7329566), 4.55 Montel Williams (S) (T) (5955189).

5.30 Pet Rescue Roadshow (S)(T) (108) 6.00 Roseanne (R)(S)(T) (721).

6.30 Hollycaks (1) (301).

7.00 News; Weather (T) (427837). 7.50 The 1998 Turner Prize: Writing about Art (T) (636127).

8.00 Planet Ustinov. Touches down in Hawaii, Australia and New Zealand on the second leg of his journey (T) (5585). 9.00 Witness. Documentary which travels to South Mississippi for the annual adoption picnic, where prospective parents meet

children who need families (T) (5721). 10.00 Anatomy of Desire. Series on human sexual desire asks why we fancy the people we do. It suggests part of the answer may be largely inborn, but also finds that the power our sex-drive and the sort of relationships we seek are

fashioned by the way we interact with our parents and peers (T) (7772214). 11.05 GiDIFE Glamour Girtz. Sendi Scott's film about racial inequality in the American porn business. See Choice,

12:10 A Woman Scomed (7086130), 12:20 It's Different for Ghis (9703994), 12.35 Gangstresses (3134420). **1.35** Phat Nation (1760352). **2.05** Booked (R)(T) (7784807). 2.45 Dispatches (R)(T) (98807), 3.15 In Quest (R) (S) (9483913). 4.00 Schools (T) (73130). To 6am.

Channel 5

6.00 5 News (S) (2371924), 7.00 Wide-World (6037301), 7.30 Mikshakel (S) (3199063), 7.35 Wirnzie's House (FI)(S) (558837), 8.00 Havakazoo (FI)(S) (2441479), 8.30 Dappledown (2433450), 9.00 The Great House Game (7360818), 9.25 Postcards (FI) (418514), 9.30 Comb (4560927) (R) (4116214). 9.30 Oprah (4656027). 10.20 Sunset Beach (S)(T) (2974943). 11.10 Leeza (9996108). 12.00 5 News (T) (2444566). **12.30** Family Affairs (7375634) 1.00 Bold and the Beautiful (1) (6036672). 1.30 Sons and Daughters (7374905). 2.00

3.30 Advice to the Lovelorn (1981). Cloris Leachman as an agony aunt with her own problems (T) (6701419).

5.20 The Roseanne Show (9256989).

7.00 5 News (S)(T) (5693634). **7.30 Watery World.** Widifie documentary exploding some of the many myths about seals (S)(T) (5184818).

8.30 The Antiques Hunter, David Dicknson winds up his series in which he

9.00 FILM A Walk in the Clouds Romantic drama, set at the end of Second World War, in which a soldier returning from combat meets a girl who is terrified of telling her father that she is pregnant.

12.45 NFL Live - San Francisco 49ers vs New York Glants (S) (12534826). 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (1860381). 5.30 100 Per Cent (R)(S) (7782130). To 6am.

MONDAY CHOICE

CAN YOU be stirred by the idea of racial inequality in the pornography business? If so, you might be heartened by Glamour Girlz (11.05pm C4, left), Sandi Scott's film in the Return of the Ba Ba Zee season. Apparently, black porn in the States has busted out of its stereotyping and minority ghetto to be big business. Midori is America's most successful black porn star and she's one of the subjects of Scott's film. The other is Charmaine Sinclair, a British glamour model whose biggest claim to fame is as one of Robert De Niro's ex-girifriends.

Sky Premier

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Fin (1906) (2404), 72.000 Morroy Lain (1906)
8802268, 1.30 The Proprietor (1906) (23771), 1.45

- 8.00 Bottle Roder (1906) (6389480). - 8.00 Bottle Rodet (1980) (8389430).

Siky Movie Max x

6.00 Here Comes the Sm (1980) (22536530, 2.45

Angus (898) (730303) 348 Finomenton (1990)
(19538) 1135 Back to the Fland of the Apas (1974)
(3350057), 1.00 Stout (1931) (1939), 1.00 Here
Comes the Sm (1959) (1931) (1939), 1.00 Here
Comes the Sm (1959) (1931), 1.00 June (1957)
(1937) 6.30 Autor Heroet (7353, 2.00

Phanomento (1906) (1937), 1.00 Love Junes (1957)
(2277) 11.00 Scream (1937) (1922/15, 12.55

Cuesta (1937) (1946-2), 2.90 Too Clase to
Home (1937) (1740-9), 4.25 Shout (1937) (1940-9)) Home (667) (2404), 4.25 Shott (667) (MAIS), Sky Clinema 4.00 The Big Sky (652) (13805), 6.00 American, Babyl (660) (8506) (872), 8.00 The Lib and Three of Judge Roy Bean (872) (8728), 10.00 A Fishin of bolism (864) (407835), 11.40 The Bighth Day (950) (8394), 4.40 The Franch Commodition II (873) (839401), 3.25 Roy Kong (633) (7527057), 5.06 Close.

SATELLITE & CABLE

Metropolitan (980) (222)770

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a Testand (1995). 1.00 Pootbel (1954). 2.00 Sporish Footbel (1955). 4.30 Velato; (7925). 3.00 Poot (274). 8.00 Sty Storts Centre (277). 8.00 What a Western (1972). 7.00 Pootbel League Review (1973). 8.00 Fingsite (1970). 10.00 Sty Sports Centre (1972). 4.05 Footbel League Review (1973). 17.05 Sports Action (1974). 17.65 Sty Sports Centre (1971). 12.00 Projekte Ensing on the Poot (1978). 2.00 Footbel League Review (1950). 3.00 Sty Sports Centre (1950). 1.300 Sty Sports Centre (1950). 3.10 Centre (1950). 3.10 Centre (1950).

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9.30 Chick Bouth After v West Index (1977)
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19.30 World White (1978)
19.30 Chick Australia v Brighand (1979)
19.30 Sky Sports 3 2200 NFC (7288-958)

100 Per Cent Gold (5699818), 2.30 Good Afternoon (6004301).

6.00 100 Per Cent (S) (5197382).

6.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (5188634).

8.00 Floyd Uncorked. Keith Floyd tours the vineyards of France (S)(T) (5602382).

has guided amateur collectors through the pittals of buying at auction (S) (5698199).

Starring Keanu Reeves (T) (81861585).

10.50 Dr Fox's Chart Update (S) (4987363). 10.55 FILM Seize the Day (1986). Robin Williams is in blackly comic form as a desperate salesman at the end of his tether (T) (15782924).

(77595793), 230 Feh TV (52114150), 8.00 Shoulumping (2776837), 8.00 high National Public (2775377), 98.00 Sporting Harses (27783190), 18.00 Second Whings (5316858), 18.30 Clase

2017-2007, 18:000 Sporting Hemes 27:00160, 16:00 Spoots Hemps Edited 18:00 Cone Spoots Hemps Edited 18:00 Cone Spoots Hemps Edited 18:00 Cone Sporting Edite

(25530), 6.00 Home and Auto (6.1837). 6.28 (Nate Tompt (66408) p. 3.00 HTV News (30186). 12:30 Short Short Short Chorn (75558) 12:40 - 8.00 As Angle RTTE! 20 Short Short Short Chorn (75558) 12:40 Short Short Chorn (75558) 12:40 Short Chorn (7 the Small Ectivities 200 JOSEPHAN IN ON ASSOCIATION 200 JOSEPHAN IN STRUCTURE 200 JOSEPHAN IN DIVINGAL AND STRUCTURE 200 JOSEPHAN IN STRUCTURE 200 J

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SATURDAY RADIO

RADIO 1 (97.6-99.8MHz FM) 7.00 Mark Goodier, 10.00 Chris Moyles 1.00 Lisa l'Anson. 3.00 Radio 1's R 'n' B Chart. 5.00 Judge Jules. 7.00 Danny Rampling - Lovegroove Dance Party. **9.00** Westwood - Radio 1 Rap Show. 12.00 Radio 1 Reggae Dancehall Nite. 2.00 Essential Mix World Tour. Edinburgh. 4.00 - 6.30 Annie Nightingale

RADIO 2 (88-90.2MHz FM) 6.00 Mo Dutta. 8.05 Brian Matthew. 10.00 Steve Wright's Saturday Show. 1.00 John Bird: That Mocking Bird. 1.30 News Huddines. 2.00 Alan Freeman. 3.30 Johnnie Walker, 5.30 Paul Gambaccini. 7.00 Boogle Wonderland - the Story of Disco. See Pick of the Day.8.00 Elvis Costello and Burt Bacharach in Concert. See Pick of the Day. 9.00 Sweet Soul Radio 2 10.00 Bob Harris. 1.00 Lynn Parsons. 4.00 - 7.00 Mo Dutta.

RADIO 3 (90.2-92.4MHz FM) 6.00 On Air. 9.00 CD Review. 11.00 Building a Library. 12.00 Private Passions. 1.00 Lunchtime Concert. **2.00** Best of 3. 3.00 One Hundred Years of the Yellow LabeL 4.15 Inspired by Myth. 5.00 Jazz Record Requests. 6.00 Punk Jazz

6.30 Opera on 3. The UK premiere of Tan Dun's opera within an opera, to a libretto by Paul Griffiths. It is an epic physical, spiritual and musical journey during which Marco Polo explores exotic lands and travels from Italy to China and beyond. Tan Dun's vivid score draws on sounds from the world of Peking opera and fuses them with western ones. Thomas Young, tenor (Polo), Laura Tucker, mezzo (Marco), Susan Botti (soprano), Royal Scottish Academy Chamber Chorus, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra/Tan Dun.

8.30 Troy. Three new plays by

of events leading up to and fol-

SKY PREMIER

Andrew Rissik re-telling the story

lowing the fall of Troy, broadcast

6.00 Christmas Every Day (1996) (64393). **8.00** Made in Heaven (1987) (10799).

Gt:dzilla vs Gigan (1972) (71026). 5.00 Friendship's Field (1996) (41596). 7.00

Young Guns I - Blaze of Glory (1990) (838981). 2.40 Nightbreaker (1989)

9.00 Wall Street (1987) (83638954)

Me (1947) (763146).

SKY CINEMA

Dracuta: Dead and Loving It (1995) (41157).

11.05 Young Guns (1988) (654119), 12.55

160349). 4.20 - 6.00 They Wort Believe

11.00 (rene (1940) (2522480), 12.30 Lancer Spy (1937) (2126577), 2.00 You'll Find Out (1940) (8019664), 4.00 Abandon Ship (1957) (1268461), 6.00

The Racket (1951) (8039428), 8.00 Father Brown (1954) (8001645), 10.00 Ad-

vise and Consent (1962) (52678886). 12.20 The Legend of Hell House (1973)

(641813), 1.55 First Monday in October (1981) (4213184), 3.35 Frenchman's Creek

8.00 Godzila vs Mechagodzila (1975)

Y (2062886), **8.00** To Die For (1995) (2034003), **10.00** The Last Seduction

(1994) (6454374). **12.00** Urotsukidoji:

340 - 6.00 Wes Craven's New

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

Nightmare (1994) (91324436).

Legend of the Overfiend (1989) (8814523).

1.30 Dancehall Queen (1997) (5053788).

4.00 Wings of Tomorrow (6206428). 5.00 Bartlefields (6365683). 7.00 Wheels and

Keels: 21st-Century Jet (9548374). 8.00

Raging Planet (9557022), 9.00 Extreme Machines (9577886), 10.00 Forensic

Scorched Earth (8066900). 2.00 Close.

(7021799). 1.00 Weapons of War:

(1944) (7963271). 5.25 Close.

FILMFOUR

PICK OF THE DAY

by Andrew Rissik's fine trilogy moves, with all the traditional Troy, which begins tonight with tales of high-life at Studio 54. King Priam and His Sons (8.30pm R3). Julian Glover plays the Trojan king, Michael R4), an hour-long look at their Maloney is Hector, and Michael rise and fall; but that clashes Sheen Paris, while Paul Scofield excels as the god Hermes.

in Boogie Wonderland - The Story of Disco (7pm R2): Paul

over this weekend on Radio 3.

1: King Priam and His Sons.

With Paul Scofield as Hermes.

At the birth of her second son,

Helcabe, Priam's wife, dies. And her child is cast out onto the

starring Toby Stephens, James Hayes, Oliver Cotton and Ian

10.00 Gemini. Introduced by

Hogg. Director Jeremy Mortimer.

Nicola Heywood Thomas. Crusell: Clarinet Quartet in C minor, Op 4.

Hilary Tann: From the Song of the

Amergin for flute, viola and harp.

Rebecca Clarke: Prelude, Allegro

Allegro for harp, flute, clarinet and

and Pastorale for clarinet and

viola. Ravel: Introduction and

string quartet. (R) 11.00 Best Words. Michael

Rosen introduces the latest

reviews, performances and

interviews from the world of

poetry. This week, an interview

with Scottish poet Jackie Kay

Colour, and recommendations for

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

about her new collection, Off

the book of the year.

11.30 Jazz on 3.

(924-946MHz FM)

6.00 News Briefing.

6.05 Sports Desk.

6.10 Open Country.

9.00 Home Truths.

10.00 News; Loose Ends.

6.57 Weather.

7.00 Today.

RADIO 4

hillside in order to satisfy the

demands of the gods. Also

See Pick of the Day.

THE WEEKEND is dominated Nicholas takes us through the Even older swingers might

prefer The Dancebands (7pm with Elvis Costello (right) and Burt Bacharach in Concert More ancient myths are retold (Spm R2), with Costello showing what a crooner be is at heart. ROBERT HANKS

11.00 News; The Food

Correspondent. 12.00 News; Money Box.

2.30 Riotous Assemblies.

2.00 News; Any Answers? 0171

3.00 News; The Saturday Play: The Heat of the Day.

4.00 News; Weekend Woman's

11.30 From Our Own

1.15 Any Questions?.

5.00 Saturday PM.

5.30 Talking Pictures. 5.54 Shipping Forecast. 5.57 Weather.

6.00 Six O'Clock News.

Song is about You. (R) 7.00 Saturday Review.

7.45 Better than Sex. Four

available sensual experience

which gives them intense pleasure. 3: Maura Dooley on

Invitations on the Mantelpiece.

Dancebands. Nigel Fountain con-

dance band music as the British

have experienced it, from jazz to swing. With contributions from

some of Britain's most notable

Noble, Ambrose and Roy Fox.

9.00 News; The Classic Serial:

Hemlock and After. Angus Wil-

band leaders, including Ray

8.00 The Archive Hour. The

siders the rise and demise of

writers celebrate a single, readily

6.15 The Now Show. 6.45 You Probably Think This

12.30 True Lies.

12.55 Weather.

1.00 News.

Programme



two parts by Michelene Wandor and stars Derek Jacobi as Bernard Sands and Anna Massey as Ella. 2: Bernard's heart attack causes a re-evaluation of his life which has interesting consequences at the grand opening. 10.00 News and Weather. 10.15 The Morai Maze. Michael Buerk and his team Janet Daley, Ian Hargreaves, David Starkey and David Cook -cross-examine witnesses on the moral issues behind one of the

week's controversies. 11.00 News; Aerial Views. Jennifer Cox talks to four European broadcasters about the cities they work in and the music they play. 3: Johannes Theurer of Sender Freis Berlin talks about multicultural broadcasting in a city that remains sharply divided. 11.30 Messages to Myself. (R) 12.00 News. 12.25 Experimental Feature:

Still No Truce. 12.30 The Late Story: A Little Understanding. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 inshore Forecast. 5.50 • 6.00 Bells on Sunday. **RADIO 4 LW**

(198kHz) 12.00 - 12.04 News; Shipping. 2.30 - 10.00 Test Match. **RADIO 5 LIVE** (693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 Dirty Tackle. 6.30 Breakfast.

8.45 Test Match Special. 9.30 Chiles on Saturday. 1LOO Move It. 11.30 The Back Page. 12.00 Sportscall. 1.00 Sport on Five. 6.06 Six-O-Six. 8.00 Dallyn UK. Richard Dallyn with news from around the UK. 9.00 The Treatment. Stuart Maconie and guests review the weeks news

10.00 Late Night Currie, Edwina Currie with the weekends big issues, including sport in depth at 1030, and a news briefing at 1100. Phone 0500 909693. 1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 • 6.00 Morning Reports.

(1000-1019MHz FM) 6.00 Sarah Lucas, 8.00 Countdown. 11.00 Masters of Their Art. 12.00 Mike Read. 3.00 Margaret Howard. 6.00 Classic FM at the Movies. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Opera Guide. 10.00 The Classic Quiz. 12.00 Midnight Music. 2.00 Evening Concert. 4.00 - 6.00 Sunday Start.

Classic FM

VIRGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 105.8MHz FM) 6.00 Jeremy Clark. 9.00 Mark Forrest, 12,00 Classic Countdown with Russ Williams. 2.00 Rock and Roll Football with Chris Evans. 6.00 Wheels of Steel. 10.00 Janey Lee Grace. 2.00 6.00 Richard West,

WORLD SERVICE RADIO (198kHz LW) 130 On Your Behalf 145 Sports Roundup, 2.00 Newsday. 2.30 Music Review. 3.00 World News. 3.15 Sports Roundup. 3.30 From Our Own Correspondent 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Global Business. 5.00 Newsday. 5.30 - 6.00 Jazzmalazz.

TALK RADIO (6.00 Paul Ross and Carol McGiffin. 9.00 Wendy Lloyd. 11.30 Danny Baker and Danny Kelly. 1.00 Premiership Show with Alan Mullery. 3.00 Nationwide League Live Commentary. 5.30 Danny Baker and Danny Kelly. 7.30 Nancy Roberts. 10.00 Mike Allen. 2.00 - 6.00 Mike Dickin.

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS JON SPEELMAN

vas already in its 10th edition by the your breath). time I first came across it in the late Sixties. The bible for openings in English at that time, it has since been supplanted to a great extent by myriad specialist opening books, prize of \$12,000. and in this country Batsford Chess Openings, not to mention the five ed a theoretical confrontation with chunky volumes of Chess Informant of Belgrade's Openings Encyclopaedia. But there's life in the old dog yet, with a new 14th edition planned fairly soon under the editorship of the American grandmaster, Nick De Firmian.

Firmian in an open tournament in Roskilde near Copenhagen - where he now lives with his Danish wife and young son. Mired in the proof reading of the section on "Semi Open Games" - things such as the French and the Caro Kann - De Firmian fared abysmally.

Since then, MCO must have finally been dispatched or shelved, however, since De Firmian has just 4,d3 Ne6 scored a splendid result to win the US Championships. Held in Denver, 6.0-0 Bg7 Colorado, the women's event was won convincingly by 14-year-old Irina Krush with a splendid 8.5/9. 9.Bb3 h6 The men's, which ran all the way from 31 October to 18 November, 11.h3 Kh7 consisted of two all-play-all preliminary groups of eight, from which the two pairs of winners progressed to

a knock-out stage. In the semi-finals, De Firmian beat Tal Shaked 2.5-1.5, winning the third game with Black, while Joel Benjamin defeated Dimitri Gurevich 19.Qa4 Rfd8

LIKE NEW College Oxford - if still 2.5-0.5. These four, together with the best part of a millennium less Sergei Kudrin and Boris Gulko, venerable - Modern Chess Open- also qualified for the Fide world ings (MCO) could bring a tear to the championship, which according to eye of a trading standard's officer. the latest rumours, is being held in First published in 1911, MCO Las Vegas in June (but don't hold

The final, too, saw De Firmian win with Black in the first game (below); and with the other three drawn he took the title and the first

In the first game Benjamin avoidthe unusual 3.Bc4 - in the third game he took on De Firmian's favourite Naidorf variation but to little effect. In the middlegame the d3 pawn became weak, but things only went out of control after 28.c4? conceding the vital d4 square for the In late July, I played with De knight. If 31.Re4 Nc2 32.Rf1 Rd1! would also have won material.

White: Joel Benjamin Black; Nick De Firmian Denver 1998 - 1st game Sicilian Defence

20, Rad! Rack 2.Nf3 d6 21.Bc1 Kg8 22.Rd2 Qe6 3.Bc4 Nf6 23.Qc4 Rd5 24.Rde2 Rcd8 5.c3 **2**6 25.Re3 Od7 7.Nbd2 0-0 26.Qc4 Ne7 8.Re1 e5 27.R3e2 Nf5 28.c4? Rxd3 10.Nc4 Be6 29.Nxe5 Bxe5 12.Ne3 d5 31.Re3 Nc2 13.Ng4 Nxg4 14.hxg4 Qd7 15.g5 h5 16.exd5 Bxd5

32.Rxd3 Qxd3 33.Rf1 Qxf1+ 34.Kxf1 Rd1+ 35.Kc2 Re1+ 36.Kd2 Rxe5

30.Qxe5 Nd4 37.Kxc2 Re2+ White resigns

BRIDGE

17.Be3 b5

18.Bxd5 Qxd5

DECLARER HAD the right idea in mind on this deal but, overlooking an important detail, went astray at

a critical point. South opened One Heart, and North responded Two Diamonds,

East, with his eight-card suit, contemplated joining in but was afraid that a heart bid by him might be taken as showing some sort of black two-suiter and so passed. It was his last chance, for South jumped to 3NT to end the auction. West led ◆2 against 3NT and, after taking his ace and queen, East had to switch. It is easy to see what would have happened if he had returned a heart now - declarer, unwilling to risk West getting in to cash his spades, would rely on a with VQ (better, at any rate, than friendly diamond break and win with his ♥A (with an unexpected

turned a club instead. Slightly puzzled by this developtricks. East and South both discarded hearts, and West threw a diamond. A diamond to the king revealed the bad break and also that East must have started with eight hearts! Next came OQ and OA,

result!). Far-sightedly, East re-

East-West game; dealer South North

> **◆**7643 ♥ none OK 0752 **♣**KQ43 East **♦**A 0

◆K952 ∇K @J9876532 ♦J 10864 O none South **♦**J 108 4 01 Q A 🗘 OA93 **♣**A J 10

the 10, which would have lost if West had held either the king or the jack), but now West claimed the remainder of the tricks,

South would have done better to ment, declarer cashed his four club throw his useless \$ J, rather than a heart, on the last club. Then in the end position he can afford to cash ♥A to guard against the singleton king with West. If, as would seem likely, VK does not fall. East can be put in with a low heart and South and, clearly. East had nothing but must make TQ at the end for his bearts left. So declarer continued ninth trick.

SATELLITE AND CABLE

PICK OF THE DAY

10.00 Jingle All the Way (1896) (62461). 11.30 Moby Dick (1997) (975770). 2.00 Supergirl (1984) (63549), **4.00** Made in Heaven (1987) (5664), **6.00** Jingle All the Way (1996) (78374). 7.30 p:review (5175). 8.00 Batman and Robin (1997) (2742) See Pick of the Day. 10.00 Broken Arrow (1996) (960886). 11.55 Fled (1996) (436935), **1.35** Desperado (1995) (764368), **3.20 - 6.00** Girl 6 (1996) SKY MOVIEMAX 6.00 Invisible Dad (1997) (52867), 7.30 Godzila vs Gigan (1972) (35190), **9.00** Friendship's Field (1996) (92393), **11.00** They Worlt Believe Me (1947) (57022). 1.00 Invisible Dad (1997) (32139), 3.00

SKY ONE

Schwarzenegger).

7.00 Bump in the Night (36225). 7.30

Alien Fighters from Beverly Hills (31119).

Street Sharks (15732), 8.00 Adventures of Sinbad (32848), 8.30 Tattooed Teenage

9.00 The Simpsons (55799), 9,30 Count Duckula (67022), 10,00 The Best of the

Chris Evens Show (11916), 11.00 Wrestlin (24480), 12.00 Wrestling (57845), 1.00

New Adventures of Superman (86383).

2.00 The Newlywed Game (8022). 3.00 MASH (8138). 3.30 MASH (8887). 4.00 Star Treic Deep Space Mine (7175), 5.00 Star

Trek: Voyager (2190), 6.00 Xena - Warrior Princess (86157), 7.00 The Simpsons

(1549), 7,30 The Simpsons (7515), 8,00

3rd Rock from the Sun (9867), 8.30 3rd

Rock from the Sun (8374), 9.00 Space: Above and Beyond (10138), 10.00 Star Trak: Deep Space Nine (13225), 11.00

Star Treic Voyager (12645). 12.00 Show-biz (60078). 12.30 The Big Easy (20184). 1.30 Fire (96436). 2.30 - 6.00 Long Play (3505436).

Sky Sports Centre (46429, 8.00 Aerobics - Oz Style (74935), 8.30 Racing News (73206) 9.00 Hold the Back Page (33225), 10.00 World Tempin Bowling

asters (68848). TLOO Max Power

(71312), 12.00 Gliette Soccer Saturday

(1777577), 5.30 Bobby Charlton's Football

Scrapbook (73374). 7.00 Futbol Mundial

SKY SPORTS 1

MANY WERE disappointed by The candidates for the title of the latest offering from Gotham most evil man of the century are City, Batman and Robin (8pm many, but Pol Pot must be near Sky Premier), which receives its the top of the list. Biography satellite premiere tonight. The (9pm History Channel) tonight Crusader's cape is now worn by profiles the perpetrator of one of ER's George Clooney (right), but the world's most terrible reigns, for all the criticism the film charts his life from his days received, he still manages to as a student radical in Paris encounter an eye-catching array to his stint as the ruler of the of baddies in the the venomous appallingly ruthless Khmer Poison Ivy (Uma Thurman) and Rouge government in the chilling Mr Freeze (Arnold Cambodia of the 1970s. JAMES RAMPTON



3461. **7.30** Sosnish Football (337461). 10.00 Saturday Fight Night (15119), 12.00 Rugby Union Update England vs Australia (58542), 1.30 Saturday Fight Night

74368). 3.30 Spanish Football (16417). 5.30 - 6.00 Futbol Mundial (18639). SKY SPORTS 2 6.00 International Cricket Australia vs England (6172312), 9-30 International Cricket South Africa vs West Indies (2467913), 10.30 International Cricket Australia v England (4663428), 11.00 international Cricket South Africa vs West Indies (1668577). 1.30 International Rugby Union England vs Australia (6348181). 5.00 Extreme Sports (4405138). 6.00 H2O (8934041). 6.30 International Cricket South Africa vs West Indies (3814886). 8.00 International Cricket Australia vs England (8650225). 10.00 Dancing IDSF World Standard (8639732). 11.00 Ford Golf USA US Men's Skins (2516954), 1.00 World Powerbost Championships (6918542). 1.30 Gilette World Sport Special (2490962). 2.00 International Cricket Australia v England (6780788).

4.30 Second Imings (5906707). 5.00 -9.30 International Cricket Australia vs England (8802558). **SKY SPORTS 3** 8.00 Soccer AM (38981751). 12.00 Extreme Sports (36512356). 1.00 World Powerboat Championships (35122374). 1.30 International Cricket (19183312). 3.30 International Cricket Australia vs England

193041409), 5.30 Gillette World Sport Special (52273157). 6.00 Max Power (75456288), 7.00 Rebel TV (77617225) 7.30 ice Hockey (51509645). 10.00 Extreme Sports (21835916), 11.00 Futbol Mundal (53245312), 11.30 World Windsurfing (97464138). 12.00 Close.

EUROSPORT 2.30 Xirem Sports (57732), 8.00 Cross-Country Skiing (32225), 9.00 Nordic Combined Skiing (28383), 10.00 Bobsleigh (39848), 10.30 Cross-Country Skiing (8285461), 11.45 Alpine Skiing (59854), 12.15 Alpine Skiing (610886), 1.00 Ski Jumping (43041). 3.00 Tennis (31436), **4.00** Tennis (13751), **5.00** Alpine Sking (7428). 6.00 Ski Jumping (46802). 7.00 Apine Sking (49684). 8.00 Sking (57461). 8.45 Bobsleigh (232428). 9.30 Karting (93792). 11.00 Bobsleigh (73654). 12.30 Boding (80368). 1.00 Close.

UK GOLD 7.00 Big Break (7151428). 7.30 Neigh-bours Omnibus (92935044). 9.25 Dales Omnibus (16294374), 12.10 EastEnders Omnibus (36303409), 3.00 The Bill Omnibus (10266799). 5.20 Citizen Smith (7717190). 6.00 Filen: The Great Waldo Pepper (1975) (9558751). 8.00 The Brittas Empire (7083374). 8.40 Shooting Stars (4451111). 9.20 Red Dwarf (9825428). 10.00 Men Behaving Badly (9049782). 10.40 One Foot in The Grave (6384577). 11.20 Films Stent Running (1971)

Whistle Test (6889558). 1.40 Mastermind Whistle lest (10005000). 2-70 (15870875). 2-10 100 Years of Horror (55149356). 2-40 - 7.00 Shopping with Screenshop (36867078). LIVING

6.00 Tany Living (90063041). **9.05** Tempestt (6332596). **9.55** Rolanda (8510312). **10.45** Special Bables (5130041). **11.15** Living It Upi (3155206), 12.15 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (2730935), 12.45 Ready, Steady, Cook (9814645), 1.20 Michael Cole (1453732), 2.50 The Roseanne Show (3056886), 3.00 Films: First Steps (1985) (52576664), 5.05 Hart to Hart (5312119), 6.00 Films: Saved by the Light (9020770), 8.00 Rescue 911 (1263916). 8.30 Beyond Bellef; Fact or Fiction (1275751). 9.00 Jerry Springer Double Bill (8031686). 11.00 The Sex Files II (5353931), 12,00 Close, TNT

9.00 This Means Wart: Never So Few (1959) (21846022), 11.00 Objective, Burmal (1945) (37376206), 1.30 Bataan (1943) (48995523), 3.30 MGM: When the Lion Roars (80306962), **5.00** Close PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL 7.00 Clusiess (1003), 7.30 Desmond's

(719), 8.00 Roseame (3521), 8.30 Just Shoot Me (9686), 9.00 Film: Moonstruck (1987) (31645), 11.00 The World of Lee Evans (27954), 11.30 The Larry Sanders Show (31206), 12.00 Duckman (75392), 12.30 in Bed with Medinner (86542), 1.00 Cornedy Store (90568), 1.30 Club Class (22078), 2.00 Or Katz (85610), 2.30 Scap (71417), 3.00 Tibs and Fibs (97894), 3.30 Nightstand (95097). 4.00 Close. **GRANADA PLUS**

6.00 The Box (6174022), 7.00 The Cuckoo Weltz (5581916), 7.30 Leave it to Charlie (5593751), 8.00. Holding the Fort (5667913), 8.30 Mind Your Language (707454), 9.00 Giaclators (931645). 10.00 The Persuaders (5599935), 11.00 E Extreme Close-Up (5594935), 11.30 Jeeves and Wooster (559645), 12.30 Mission: Impossible (182393), 1.30 Emmerdale (8535615), 4.00 Sherlock Holmes - Sign of Four (5161003), 6.00 The Persuaders (6726770), 7.00 Mission: Impossible (7687190), 8.00 Jeeves and Wooster (7603198), 8.00 A Kind of Loving (7683374), 10.00 The Odd Couple (8562549), 10.30 Hogan's Heroes (226757), 11.00 Granada Men & Motors (8466206), **2.00** Close.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1 N IRELAND As BBC1 England except: 4.40 Final Score (2972515), 4.55 Northern Ireland Results (2951022), 5.25 Newsline

BBC1 SCOTLAND As BBC1 England except: 4.40
As BBC1 England except: 4.40
Afternoon Sportscane (5096480), 5.25
Reporting Scotland (8939461), 10.30
Sportscane - Match of the Day (4332799). BBC1 WALES

As BBC1 England except: 4.40
Final Score (2872515). 4.55 Wales on
Saturday - the Results (2951022). 5.25
Wales on Saturday - the Magazine ANGLIA

ANGLIA

As LWT except: 12.30 Pirate TV
(16374). 1.05 Angia News (43797954).
1.40 Bugs Burrry's Thanksgiving Diet
(322886). 5.15 Angia News and Sport
(4385916). 12.30 Film: Double Crossed.
Daredevil pilot Dennis Hooper gets his
ledes (and loads of money) running drugs.
When he's caught, he makes a deal with
the Drug Enforcement Administration,
going undercover to get inside
information. It's a dangerous game.
Unlikely true-life tale, enjoyably overplayed

by Hopper in his camera-hog mode. With Robert Carradine, Adrienne Barbeau. (4973813). 2.35 New Baywatch (6844310). 2.35 Coach (52398368). 3.50 Not Fade Away (3799368). 4.45 Soundtrax (78948558). 3.50 ITV Nightscreen (6146267). CENTRAL

As LWT excepts 12:30 Premiere (16379, 1.05 Central News and Weather (43797959, 1.40 Caprice - the Making of a Supermodel How Miss Tean California became one of the world's most became one or true wonts most photographed supermodels. With footage of the photoshoot in Marbella for Caprice's own calender. (3222885), 5.35 Central News, Weather and Goela Extra (485916), 3.30 Jobfinder (39418), 5.00 Spotlight Asia (80981).

Spotlight Asia (80981).

HTV WALES

As LWT except: 12.30 Movies,
Germas and Videos (16374). 1.05 HTV
News (43797954). 1.40 ITV Sport
Classics (222288). 5.45 HTV Wales
News and Sports Results (485916).
12.30 Fitm: Double Crossed (4873813).
2.35 New Baywatch (8844310). 3.25
Coach (522396389). 3.50 Not Face Away (3799368). 4.45 Sounditax (78948568).
5.40 (TV Nightscreen (8146287).

As HTV Wales except: 12.30 Sportsweek (16374) 1.40 No Naked Flames. Lifestyle and activity programme amed at 13- to 17-year-olds. In this ampo at 13-to 17-year-oos in way of transforming a bedroom. Kylie enjoys a star-studied evening and Adam learns julitsu. (3222886), 5.15 HTV West News and Sports Results (#85916). MERIDIAN

MERIDIAN
As LWT except: 12.30 Dinosaus
(18374). 1.05 Meridien Nows and Weather
(43797954). 1.40 Beach Volleybal
(3222886). 5.15 Meridian News and
Weather (4185916). 8.35 News Headines;
Netional Weather (519022). 12.30 Film:
Double Crossed (41873813). 2.35 New
Baywatch (6844310), 3.25 Coach
(5236368). 3.30 Not Fade Away
(379368). 4.45 Soundtrax (78948558).
8.30 TV Nightscreen (8146287). 5.10 ITV Nightscreen (8146287). WESTCOUNTRY MEDICURINT
As LWT except: 12.30 Movies,
Games and Videos (16374). 1.05
Westcountry News (4787954). 1.40
Extreme (3222886). 5.15 Westcountry
News (4785951). 12.30 Firm: Double
Crossed (4878698). 6.75

Crossed (41873813), 2.35 New Beywatch (6844310), 3.25 Coach (52396368), 3.50

Not Fade Away. Celebrities introduce their favourite music on video. Among the selection of Capital Radio DJ Stave Blacknell - who has several anecdotes about meeting pop stars to share - are the Cult, the Cars and Joe Jackson 4.45. Shundhay (7804555) (3799366), 4.45 Soundtrax (78948558), YORKSHIRE

YORKSHIRE
As LWT except: 12.30 Dinosaurs.
Domesticated dinosaur sitrom. Earl loses
his loence to be a parent. (16374). 1.05
Calendar News and Weather (43797954).
5.15 Calendar News and Weather
(9835645). 5.20 Scoreline (9965886). TYNE TEES As Yorkshire except: 1.05 North East News and Weather (43797954). 5.15 North East News and Weather (9935645).

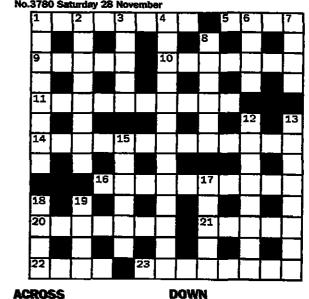
5.20 Full Time (9965886).

S4C As Channel 4 excepts 5.05
Newyddion (26977645), 5.00 Y Cwb
Rygbi, Live coverage of Portrypridd's
game against Nesin at Sardis Road.
(26101848), 7.45 Newyddion (80341512),
8.00 Noson Lawen (88414041), 12.25
Fam: Poison by, Manipulsing minx Drew
Barrymore latches on to dysfunctional
wealthy family – drunken dad Tom As Channel 4 except: 5.05

Skerritt, malingering mom Cheryl Ladd, shadowy domestic staff. Not even the family dog is spared her wicked quite a while to warm up. With Sara Gibert, Alan Stock, Leonardo DiCaprio. (26821146). 2.05 TRANST (46171320). 2.20 Film: Zero Patience. A comedy-musical may not seem the most politically control of the cont correct way to treat the AIDS ecidemic. Yet this Canadian outing provides an irreverent swipe at those who would rather deal with the morality than the reality of the issue — even if it does rely primarily on the ghost of "Patient Zero," the Canadian air steward popularly assumed to be the first carrier of the virus assumed to be the tirst carrier of the virus to the U.S., and a reincamation of famed, sex-mad, victorian explorer Sir Richard Burton to pull it off. May prove uneasy viewing for those who think of Phispatelphia as the utilinate ADS movie (77659417).

4.00 NYPD Blue. American police drama series. Simone and Sipowicz hot; the mobilinate within the utilinate consenting. when a wire-tapping operation targeting the underground goes awry. Tension grows between Martinez and Lesniak when an attractive woman ofters to shop her ex-boyfriend who is planning a truck helat. (23193879). 4.50 Close.

CONCISE CROSSWORD



ACROSS Stealing (8)

Remove (hat, e.g.) (4) 9 Pub (5) 10 Fancy (7) 11 Set menu (5,5) 14 Medical consultant (13) 16 Disgrace (10) 20 Keepsake (7) 21 Drinking vessel (5)

Attire (4) 23 Worshipper of false gods

Design on skin (6) 12 Watchful (8) Spray (8) Hard bread roll (5) 18 Self-satisfied (4) 19 Middle Eastern ruler (4)

Fee for steering into port

Part of shirt (8)

District (13)

Nourish (4)

Divide by two (5)

Roman poet (4)

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword:

ACROSS: 1 Shawl, 4 Lea (Surely), 7 Gobi, 8 Chat show, 9 Bloodthirsty, 10 Opiate, 13 Review, 15 Open-mindedly, 19 Satuated, 20 Kite, 21 Ewe, 22 Rider, DOWN; 1 Scowl, 2 Arizona, 3 Licit, 4 Lists, 5 Acolyte, 6 Rapier, 11 Prumse, 12 Enmay, 14 V-necked, 16 Elude, 17 Nadir, 18 Later.



JASPER REES

TELEVISION REVIEW

sitcomiand. In his new manifesto, he swore cleath to the sofa and pledged to drive suburbla into exile. Like uny other revolution, of course, everything will change so that everything can stay the same. The ratio of good siteums to bad will not differ appreciably from that af, say, 197h, As for the decimation that there will be more shows matching the quality of Dimerkales, that's like saying there will be more comediums like Victoria Wood. Good luck with picelug the mould back together.

that they're getting entrenched in lazy mannerism and ensy caricature. Chandler and desy caricature. Chandler and Fhoebe not for behind. But, in the Ross-and-Hachel plot, the show has consistently excelled. The wedding in two weeks' time. Unloss you watch Sky, in which case it was nine months ago, and the episode will look more like a wedding video.

In Extreme Danger (BBC1) looks like 999 working under an alias. It's got Michael Buerk on voiceover, bad actors doing the reconstructions and, in the starring role, stories of triumph in the face of tragedy. The only reason it can't call itself 999 is that in In Extreme Danger no one actually dials the emergency services.

This week, a RAF pllot was paralysed when his Harrier jet dropped out of the sky, but, by an extraordinary effort of will, he managed not only to fly again but to buy a plane Dack to the lauding strip where he had his accident. On the one hand, it is a remarkable story. On the other, it is yet another example of got-well-story the fiction that everything will always be all right in the end. This week, a BBC producer told me that Chiktren's

BBC is genuinely bent on Bhitrite modernisation, why can't there be fewer connections like Jim Davidson? One fewer will do. In Jim Davidson - So Far (BBC1) the nation's favourite biget secured 60 minutes of airlime to remind everyone why he'll never have his own connedy series again. Though he is permitted to host Big Break and The Generation Game, the game show format acts like a restraining harness which reins in his baser conic instincts. But, for one night only, all the Jokes were back for an old-school reunion. Did you ever hear the one about the man in suspenders? Yes, but not since before the Falklands War. "You don't get Jokes like that any more," beasted Davidson, like a dinosaur bragging about surviving the Ice Age.

This was nominally a celebration to mark Davidson's 20 years in show business, but it had the look of one of those parties the boss throws with a peg over his nose. No one else had been invited along, unless you count Richard Digance. Or, perhaps, people politely declined.

Anybody with a career in tollevision to protect wouldn't want to be spotted standing next to Chalky, Davidson's West Indian sterootype. The programme thus had the look of u compromise threshed out in the bowels of the BBC light ontertainment BBC light entertainment department, and, indeed, issued through them.
Davidson was presumably ofter a performance-related bonus for hosting series after series of hit game shows, and this was the least they could decently give him. In actual fact there was the fact there are the control of the could decently give him.

BBC1

7.00 The Munsters (R) (T) (2!29393). 7.25 News; Weather (5336157).

7.30 Children's BBC: Terrible Thunderlizards (R) (S) (7932770). 7.40 The Wizard of Oz (R) (S) (295955). 8.05 Hero Turtles - The Next Mutalion (1583645). 8.30 The New Adventures of Supermen (R) (S) (T) (8297383). 9.15 Live and Kicking (S) (15847515).

12.10 News; Weather (T) (9651848): 12.15 Grandsland (S) (965019): 12.20 Football Focus (4802157): 1.10 Racing from Newbury (98872935): 1.26 Cricket - the Ashes. Highlights from Perth of the first day of the Second Tost (98895886): 1.40 Racing from Newbury (73940022): 1.55 Cricket (73930645): 2.10 Racing from Newbury (70429596): 2.35 Rugby Union: Ireland vs South Africa. Live coverage from Lansdowne Road (kick-off at 3pm) (68431935): 4.40 Final Score (5096480).

9 News; Weather (T) (4190848), 5.25 Regional News and Weather (9939461). 5.30 'Allo! 'Allo (R) (T) (686).

6,00 Jim Davidson's Qeneration Qame. Guests Lone! Blair, Mike Batt and the Wombles and Burt Kwouk help Jim Davidson through another edition of the prehistoric game show (S) (T) (39225).

7,00 Noel's House Party (S) (T) (625798)

7.45 The National Lottery Draw. UB40 and new girlband on the block, the Honeyz, help Dale Winton and Nicholas Parsons with the money draw (S) (T) (571577).

8.05 Casuaity. A young mother and a frightened prisoner provide tense moments for Penny and Duffy (S) (T) (358770).

Airport. Slobhan wrestles with excess baggage, while at passport control, Rob's trying to find out if an Australian is telling the truth (S) (T) (25913B).

9.25 The X-Files. An episode co-written by Stephen King and the series' creator, Chris Carter. While on holiday in Maine, Scully is drawn into a bizarre case involving a murderous doll which terrorises a small New England fishing village (S) (T) (760312).

10:10 News; Weather (7) (740751).

10.30 Match of the Day. The Premiership match between Chelsea and Sheffield Wednesday at Stamford Bridge is expected to provide the highlights. Trevor Brooking and Mark Lawrenson are in for analysis (S) (T) (4332789).

11.40 McCoist and MacAulay (S) (T) (897598).

12.10 Cilve Anderson Ali Talk. Paul Whitehouse and Tony
Curtis – In that order – are the guests (H) (S) (T) (7038691).

12.40 Top of the Pops (S) (T) (9199320). **1.15 Joins BBC News 24** (88727726), To 7am.

bottom of his appeal in Best of British, and Davidson may be nurshing a grudge that he was not one of its subjects. The series celebrated cockneys, it celebrated comedians, but it drew the line at celebrating cockney conedians.

Friends (C4) has been around for only four years, but this week generated a greater wave of nostalgia in a few flushbacks than Davidson could manuage with two deceding round his weeking invitations. As he wrote out one for Itachel, and she opened it, they spouled back through the key events in their on-off relationship. Friends has made its share of cuemies doubliess fans of Davidson's no-fells plain-speaking are among them - and I do worry that the actors are now so familiar with their characters that they're getting

107 300

6.35 IIII The Chaplin Classics. A double bit of Chaplin stont litms. In Shoulder Arms, from 1916, Chaplin plays a First World War recruit. And, in The Pilgrim, from 1923, he plays a fugitive prisoner who disguises himself as a priest (4953886).

B.00 Weekend 24 (56867). 8.00 Network East Big Talk (13799). 8.30 Q Asia (18732). 10.00 Café 21 (55848).
10.30 Network East (6092515). 11.20 See Heart (1160022). 12.05 Birds with Tony Soper (R) (3731867).
12.25 The Phil Silvers Show (4515374).

DeMile 1952 US). Overblown and mawkish circus DeMile 1952 US). Overblown and mawkish circus extravaganza, frimed by DeMile as if the lives and loves of trapeze artists Betty Hutton and Cornel Wilde, elephant-trainer's assistant Gloria Grahame, circus manager Charlton Heston and clown James Stewart (who's really a doctor in disguise) are something from the Book of Exodus (63805041).

3.15 The Virginlan (2768596). 4.30 TOTP 2 (S) (2792461).

5.15 Snooker. David Vine introduces highlights of the second semi-linal from Bournemouth (S) (1598867).

6.55 News and Sporty Weather (T) (546596).

8.00 What the Papers Say. Decca Altkenheed of The Guardian reviews the week's press (887935).

9.10 Cold War. "Cuba 1961-3". Whereby Nikita Khrushchev attempted to level the nuclear playing field, arranged with Fidel Castro to install medium-range missies in Cuba, and nearly kick-started the Third World War (S) (T) (353225).

9.00 Have I Got News for You. Yesterday's news quiz (R) (S) (T) (9206).

9.30 Lesley Garrett Tonight. Darcey Bussell dances to Bizet's Carmen, and Dutch violinist Andre Rieu performs Lehar's Gypsy Fiddles Playing. All that and Verdi, Handel and Strauss (S) (T) (32312).

10.00 Story ville: Waco - the Rules of Engagement.
William Gazəcki's Oscar-nominated documentary about
the 1993 siege at the Branch Davidian compound in
Waco, Texas, which challenges the FBI's claim that 78
members of David Koresh's sect committed suicide. He
alleges that they were murdered when FBI agents
gassed and burned down the compound (S) (T) (62789)

11.30 Snooker (S) (801111). **12.20** The Cops (S) (T) (6818455).

1.10 **EXAMPLE BOILING Point** (Takeshi Kitano 1990 Jap). Cartoonishly brutal and very lunny gangster film from the director of last Saturday's *Violent Cop*. Masahiko Ono plays the dreamy and incompetent petrol pump attendant who strikes back against an aggressive customer, who happens to be a Yakuza hood (Followed by *Weather/lew*) (S) (236900). To 3am.

6.05 Travels with Pavaner. Architectural historian John Grundy, who revised the Northumberland edition of Pevsner's Buildings of England, takes in Hadrian's Wall, Lindisfarne Prory, the church at Hexham and the bridges of Newcastle (S) (321041).

7.10 ENDINE Correspondent: The Unfinished War Phil Rees reports on the conflict between India and Pakiston over Kashmir. See *Documentary of the Day*, below (S) (T) (526954).

ITN News; Weather; Lottery Result (T) (519022).

Stank you) special in which the Winner Is.... A one-off (oh, thank you) special in which the avuncular Denis Norden looks at "hilarious moments" from worldwide award ceremonies over the past 35 years. Including the actress who was in the lavatory when her award was announced, a seal who upstaged a presenter, and Michael Barrymore throwing away Jonathan Ross's autocue (47/616).

DHOTOLS The Petican Brief (Alan J Pakula 1983 US). Julia Roberts and Denzel Washington investigate the murder of two Supreme Court judges. See Film of the Day, below (S) (T) (18069732).

Baywatch Nights (R) (S) (2760829).

BIRM summer breams: The Story of the Beach Boys (Michael Switzer 1990 US). Senitised biopic of the Sixtles sun-and-surf rockers, concentrating on Dennis Wilson, the drummer. A bit like making a movie about the Beatles with the main focus on Ringo (505542).

BBC2

Catchphrase. Roy Walker hosts the expressive quiz show (S) (T) (186577).

E0%

Blind Date. Duncan from Scotland generates much Cilla-led hilarity as he comes looking for a date wearing a kilt (S) (T) (258041).

Family Fortunes. Start to worry if you find yourself watching this. The bloke with the blond hair putting his arms around the contestants is Les Dennis (S) (610/90).

Box Office America (52376504). 3.30 CD UK (S) (3779504). 4.25 Night Shift (92398184). 4.35 ITV Nightscreen (7659900). 5.30 News (16233). To 6am.

\$MTV Live (\$) (12618515), **11.30** CD UK (\$) (31789). **12.30** NvS (16374), **1.00** ITN News; Weather (T) (43798683), **1.05** London Weekend Today (T) (43797954), **1.10** On the Bell (T) (38459022), **1.40** Bugs Burny (3222886).

nternational Rugby: Scotland vs Portugal. Ive coverage from Murrayfield (kick-off at 2.30pm) of Scotland's opening World-Cup qualifier against group sutsiders Portugal. This is followed by highlights of this lifernoon's match between England and Australia at Wickenham, which can be seen live on Sky Sports 2

London Weekend Tonight (T) (4185916). **5.25** ITN News; Sports Results; Weather (T) (9855409).

5.05

7.00 Storm Force. Extreme weather grief. This episode looks at flooding, which kills more people than any other natural diseaser. It includes footage of a flood in Italy caused by deforestation which claimed the lives of 137 people. Plus, the flash flood which wiped out a Spanish campsite and was captured on video by one of the survivors (T) (4003).

8.00 Hard News Special. Six months published an investigation into the IT's

8,05

Xena: Warrior Princess. "Xena possesses the body of Autolycus, King of Thieves". Anyone have a clue? (S) (5886119).

900 Albute Stephen Fry's Live from the Lighthouse. Stephen Fry presents three hours of Lighthouse as a

12.25 The Young Person's Quide to Becoming a Rock Star (1) (533898). 1.10 Drop the Dead Donkey (2844368). 1.40 is it Legal? (5) (1) (5938981).

3.50 NYPD Blue (262127t). 4.40 Future Quest (9779827t). 5.10 Hangiri with Mr Cooper (R) (599826t). To 5.35am. 210 **THIM** Zero Patience (John Greyson 1983 Can). Witty and offibeat take on the Alds epidemic, imagining the ghost of the Canadian air steward alleged to have first brought the virus to North America, attempting to materialise in front of old irlends and infected lovers (908436).

6.00

Channel

T4 (15393). **7.00** Madeline (R) (2112003). **7.25** Animal Alphabet (5328867). **7.30** The Magic School Bus (84288). **8.00** Elker Mice from Mars (R) (85916). **8.30** The Vibe (T) (17515). **9.00** Morning Line (S) (46751). **10.00** Gazzetta Football Italia (97312). **11.00** Transworld Sport (T) (84848). **12.00** No Balls Allowed (88003).

00. 00.

hannel

S

(S) (3759041), 7.00 5 News and Sport (S) (6173157), 7.30
Mikshake! (S) (3466729), 7.35 Wimzle's House (R) (S) (1687393), 8.00 Lassie (S) (2570935), 8.30 Wishbone (R) (S) (2579208), 9.00 The Enid Blyton Secret Series (9485848), 9.35 The incredible Hulk (1926461), 10.30 Loggerheads (S) (2582770), 11.00 The Pepsi Chart (R) (S) (T) (8579190), 11.30 Singled Out (S) (8587119), 12.00 The Mag (S) (9801770), 1.50 5 News (S) (T) (50852119), 2.00 Blast (S) (5728374).

12.30 IIIII Anne of the Indies (Jacques Tourneur 1851 US). Jean Peters retired from films, aged 29, to marry Howard Hughes. Often cast as Indian squaws or Mexican spitilies, here she plays a female pirate captain who falls in love with Louis Jourdan, the French navel officer planted in her crew to capture her (34886). 2.00 Channel 4 Racing from Haydock Park and Warwick. The races from Haydock are the 2.10, 2.40, 3.10 and 3.40pm. From Warwick, the 2.55 and 3.25pm (2886).

4.00 History Hunters. How did Blackpool change from a sleepy, mid-Victorian provincial town into the megaseaside resort of today? Tony Robinson challenges three teams of amateur local historians to find out (6129799). Brookside Omnibus. Can Lindsey persuade Kylle to drop the gun which she is pointing at the Corkhills? That and all last week's storylines in full (R) (S) (T) (8926732).

6.30 Right to Reply. Roger Bolton filters viewers' complaints (1) (461).

6.65 5

Night Faver. C-list keracks fun with Suggs and guests (how many can you recognise?) – Avnabel Croft, Emma Steadman, Armanda Holden, Franche Lewis, Cleo Rocos, Peter Kay, "Handy Andy" from Chenging Rooms, Shaun Williamson, Scott Neal and Mark Walker (S) (2081480).

be. Plus, the and was

7.46

5 News and Sport (S) (T) (9013157).

were so tacking in *The Conne* a sgo, The Guerdian
IV documentary The
sof that film were
bate about veracity
duy re-investigates
ardian lived up to the

9.00 IIIII Schemes (Derek Westervelt 1885 US). A grieving widower is seduced by a friend of his late wife — but her interest in him len't quite what it seems. A thriller,

t0.50 **INTERIOR Broken Vows** (Jud Taylor 1987 US). Erestz reworking of Hitchcocks *I Confess*, with a pre-standom Tommy Lee Jones as the priest who gets involved with the former lover of a murder victim he has comforted in his last minutes. Annette O'Toole is the *ferrine fatale* and there's support action from M Emmet Walsh (15829409).

12.40 13111 Odds Against Tomorrow (Robert Wise 1858 US). Terrific heist movie about a black nightclub entertainer (Harry Belafonte) who finds himself forced into committing a crime. With Shelley Winters (2910417). **Hollywood Ghost Stories** (72647788). **3.5**0 The Movie Chart Show (91140894). **4.15** Move On Up (6362-7184). **4.40** Prisoner: Cell Biock H (2452881). To G30am.

TELEVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GILBERT

DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY

BBC2. Aght) Tonight's edition of Cold War remembers the time the world lust came close to nuclear Armageddon during the Cuban Missile Crisis. In Correspondent, Phil Rees reports from where the world's first actual nuclear exchange is likely to take place – not Iraq, not North Korea, but Kashmir, the Himalayan territory hotly disputed between India and Pakistan. Both countries are members of the nuclear club, and both are being driven by a heady mixture of religion and historical grievances to pursue their claims to the region. Both armies are already exchanging shots in a desultory border war. Where will it end?



FUNDRAISER OF THE DAY

(Spin C4, right) All Saints, Julian Clary, Steve Coogan, Harry Enfield, Graham Norton, Mel Smith and Griff Rhys Jones make a good line-up in anybody's book, and they will all be present at this live concert to raise money for Aids charities (call 0870 8000844 to make a donation). The actual event, from the London Lighthouse, bookends a couple of documentaries. — A Ribbon Runs Through It (the story of Aids from 1982, accompanied by music of the time) and Hollywood Aids, on a few the London Lighthouse.



FILM OF THE DAY

ago, Hollywood couldn't get enough of either Edith Wharton or John Grisham – a double fad which is now thankfully over. Grisham found his perfect director in Alan J Pakula the of Klute and The Parallax View), whose apparent interest in human psychology is often just as neat and "worked out" as Grisham's legal thrillers. Having cut his teeth on legal motodrama in Presumed Innocent, Pakula delivers in the marginally more exciting Pelican Brief, in which law student to the County of the cou

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2



6.00 Hercules: the Legendary Journeys. Hercules and lolaus try to defeat the Golden Hind, a half-women, half-deer belonging to Areas. Whatever (S) (4732935).

3.30 Sunset Beach Omnibus. Annie spikes Gregory's drink with Viagra. I'm not kidding. Spike your afternoon with this insene US daytime soap (A) (S) (T) (12943888)

2.30 Sportsweek on 5. Dutch and Brazilian club soccer action, highlights from the Uefa Champions' League and NHL ice-hockey action. Gall McKenna does the links (S)

NHL ice-hi (6140157),

6.55 5 News and Sport (S) (T) (1629867).

BBC

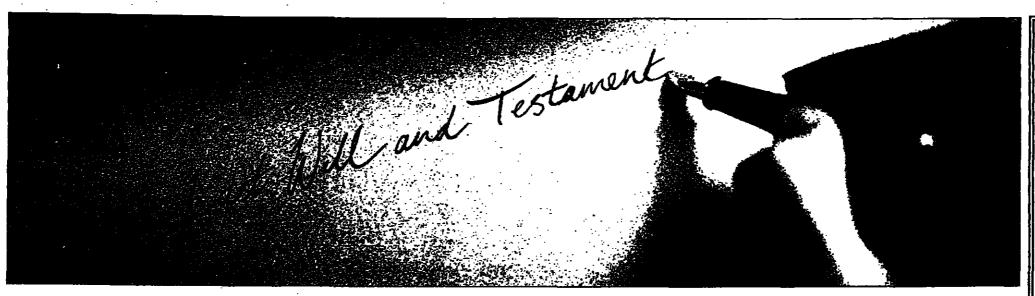
COLLECTING, PAGE 3

Your guide to Christmas wrapping

SHOPPING, PAGE 8

Is Paddington the new Little Venice?

OPERTY, PAGE 14



The inheritance hunters

t bears the halimark of a hoary Hollywood cliché: an unexpected letter telling you that a family member you hardly knew has died, and that you are due for a windfall. Yet for a handful of people around the world, relatives of an Edinburgh woman named Helen Lowe, the letter may mean a slice of a £7m bequest.

Ms Lowe died in November 1997, leaving a fortune - but no will. The case has yet to be settled, but Title Pesearch (the firm of genealogists tracking down distant members of her family) has already found valid claimants to her estate as far afield as Australia.

Her case has turned the spotlight on a little-known profession which comdetective work. Stephen Rigden of Title Research says: "Because of the nature of our work, the people we are dealing with have often lost contact with their families. The people we are finding are first cousins once removed or twice removed, and most of them have never heard of Helen Lowe. So these people really are being contacted out of the blue."

Far from being delighted when they receive a letter like this, many people are initially suspicious. Given that Title When the wealthy die intestate, it is often the start of some far-reaching investigations. By Paul Slade

Research will be asking for copies of personal documents such as birth certificates or passport (both of which are valuable to forgers) this is natural enough. Rigden's advice is to check with the Law Society the name of any research firm contacting you, to establish that they are a reputable company.

Rigden and his colleagues' work is establishing a family tree, one document at a time. Unusual cases like Helen Lowe's attract international publicity. People with distant relatives named Lowe have been contacting Title Research from all over the world, but none has proved genuine.

Eliminating claimants like these wastes a lot of the researchers' time. Alison Riddell of solicitors Turcan Connell, who are handling the Lowe case. says Title Research has been "swamped" with Lowe claimants.

Sometimes, even the most distant link with the deceased is enough to

estate. Richard Bark-Jones, a partner at more may also have a claim. In both these London solicitors Morecroft Urquhart, recalls one recent case where a share of the estate went to the deceased's halfsibling's children. The link here was through the dead woman's father's mistress, whom he later married.

English law lays down a pecking order dren, parents, full brothers and sisters, their children, more distant relatives and -finally-the government. In Bark-Jones' example, the beneficiaries managed to prevent HM Treasury getting its hands on the money only at the last possible

Anyone who might reasonably have expected to have inherited from a will may also be able to claim a share of the estate. This might cover, say, a long-standing and loyal housekeeper; and, since 1996, an unmarried heterosexual partner who had

allow someone to inherit a share of the lived with the deceased for two years or cases, however, the claimant will have to satisfy the courts.

Administrators of estates where no will has been left are responsible for finding missing relatives, and this is a demanding task. Helped by solicitors and genealogists, they must seek relatives all built around a painstaking process of of relatives who may qualify to inherit over the world. As Bark-Jones says: "It even where no will exists. In order of might be that the deceased had a cousin who went to New York in 1954. In that vertisements there. The administrator's

enquiries are not limited to the UK." The test of whether an administrator has done enough to try and find all possible beneficiaries is one of reasonableness. If a new claimant comes to light after the proceeds of the estate have been distributed, it is up to the claimant to pursue the beneficiaries. Providing the administrator has done everything rea-

sonable, he or she is in the clear. There are no hard-and-fast rules

regarding how long an administrator must search before making the distribution. Kenneth Norrie, professor of law at the University of Stratbclyde, says: "For a very large estate with a very large family two generations ago, and nobody apparently living in the UK, it would be reasonable to search worldwide

for some time. "On the other hand, if the family was dying out, and the estate was small, it would be reasonable to stop searching after a shorter time. Six months would

be the absolute minimum." Once the Treasury has claimed an estate, disgruntled relatives who were not discovered at the time have 30 years to stake a claim. After that point, the matthere are family legends that become distorted over the course of a century. Very few of those are well-founded and, even when they are, they tend to have

been sorted out already." One of the happiest aspects of Rigden's work is that even the humblest members of society can benefit. "We've found a number of people over the past 11 or 12 years who have been essentially homeless and have really benefited from the money," he savs.

BARGAIN HUNTER

CAR OF THE WEEK A touch of class from Vauxhall

EXECUTIVE CARS are big, loaded with extras and built in Germany. Trouble is, with Mercedes, Audis and BMWs tend £30K examples tend to cost pretty near that a few years later. However, there is a handsome German-built saloon which fits the executive bill at temptingly low prices.

Roll forward the Vauxhall Omega. It has a low image but high quality and



ability. They are good looking, fun to drive and comfortable, but they just don't have the right badge. For just £12,995, MJA in Guildford has a 1997, 15,000-mile, V6-powered CD model, costing over £23K new, with all the executive car trimmings. Call MJA on

JAMES RUPPERT DEAL OF THE WEEK

TO GET the best savings deal, you have to shop around. The problem is, shifting your money from account to account. while sensible, can get rather tiring.

Something of interest for savers

To remove the need for this, First Active has launched a Fairdeal account promising the average of the 20 highest-paying instant access accounts on the market. To spice things up, First Active is taking the average interest of the top 20, paid on balances over £10,000 - where rates are usually highest, currently 7.37 gross - but in Fairdeal's case, applying it to a minimum balance of £1,000. Call 0800 558844 for details.

Abbey's | baby boon

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Channel

Channel

ABBEY NATIONAL, the nation's second biggest mortgage lender is to give all Britain's Christmas babies an extra gift. A new house might have been at the top of most young parents' wish lists, but even Santa has his limits.

The Abbey instead is spending more than £500,000 on the gift of health by guaranteeing a hospital bed for each baby born on Christmas Day, through one year's free medical cover, worth £250. Any parent of a baby born on December 25 need only take the baby's birth certificate to an). Abbey National branch to claim a free policy.

With the policy, festive babies will be able to enjoy the best medical treatment available in their first year. It will mean children can receive medical treatment at their parents' convenience, not at that of hospitals or doctors.

An Abbey spokesman explains: "Our research showed that most babies spend some time in hospital during the first year of their lives, and that this can be a very worrying time for their parents. By giving them access to top quality private hospitals and immediate appointments, much of that worry can be alleviated." TERESA HUNTER

Carpetbaggers face tax bill

A muddle over PEPs could cost many of last year's windfall winners dear. By Teresa Hunter

But the jamboree was

not confined to building

society customers. A

parcel of shares in the

insurer Norwich Union

summer, could now be

Throw in a few hundred

quid from the Bristol &

West sale, and the serious

worth around £4,000.

which was also sold last

THOUSANDS OF carpetbaggers, who made a killing from last year's building society share bonanzas may be forced to pay a huge chunk of their profits to the taxman because of a muddle over their personal equity plans. Despite recent stockmar-

ket setbacks, the former mutuals have continued to perform strongly, outclassing many other banking shares. Most shareholders sought to shelter their holdings from in-

come and capital gains tax by ticking the box on the share application forms and subscribing to the new mortgage banks' single company PEPs. They failed to realise that each investor can only have one single company PEP in any one year, and to ap-

ply for more than one is fraud. PEP managers at most of the big investment houses have already detected large numbers of these fraudulent duplicate plans, but they fear the real scale of the problem is

yet to be uncovered. It will be any day now as the Inland Revenue is poised to begin its annual trawl through the PEP managers' returns. Peter Shipp of the PEP and ISA Managers Association (PIMA) says: "The PEP managers have already seen hugely increased numbers of problems with duplicate PEPs, and believe that

THE £31,000 BONANZA sums of £4,500 and £2,250. pocketed £31,000 in a little

Some Halifax customers are sitting on a profit of nearly £10,000 and recent bid fever could send those shares soaring even higher

Some former Woolwich nembers have made equivalent gains, while flat distributions at the Alliance & Leicester and Northern Rock produced more modest, but nevertheiess welcome

ous the cock-up has been."

foul of the PEP rules may feel

aggrieved that they could have

sheltered their entire windfall

portfolio from tax in a general

PEP which accepted the trans-

ferral of the free shares. Many

general PEPs did not offer this

flexibility, but where they did the

shares did not count towards the

normal £6,000 PEP allowance.

blame the former building

societies for producing litera-

ture which was primarily de-

signed to encourage customers

to opt into their own single

company PEPs, rather than

Some investment managers

carpetbagger might have what has come to light is just move to another fund manager. Where customers have inthe tip of the iceberg. We will shortly find out just how serinocently opened more than one PER they may not even choose Investors who have fallen

> with. The rules state that the first PEP opened in the tax year is the qualifying one and all subsequent plans are null and void. If a scheme is declared void, investors must return any tax credit and face a CGT bill on any profits taken above the £6,000 annual exemption. Customers can expect short shrift from the Inland Revenue, which takes a hard line over

fraudulent plans, not least be-

cause customers sign a decla-

to any other single company PEP in the current tax year. Furthermore, as there can be considerable administrative which one they wish to stick work involved in declaring a plan void, many PEP managers will charge a fee for the exercise - both Halifax and Woolwich

over six months.

And all of this gain could

have been protected from

placed in the right kind of

many cases they weren't.

Many shareholders could

facing a 40 per cent tax

they sold that summer.

charge on windfall shares

soon find themselves

personal equity plan. But in

tax had the shares been

levy a £15 fee for doing so. Others may charge more. The first and last of the flotations that summer the Alliance & Leicester and Northern Rock, did not specifically offer a single company PEP to their customers, although a large number of PEP providers did offer schemes aimed at capturing these shares.

However, the Halifax, Norration on every PEP application form confirming did. On that basis, coming as it to claw back. that they have not subscribed

did towards the end of the timetable of sell-offs, Woolwich customers are likely to be

among the most volnerable. The Halifax strongly denies this was the case, but admits that the entire process was al-

ways a bungle in the making. Halifax assistant general manager Ian Black says: "We were very concerned at the time because of the way the timetable ran. All these share issues came one on top of the other in a matter of weeks. People were being drowned in paper."

Mr Black adds that he believes many people who had never paid capital gains tax before were in ignorant bliss of a bill winging its way towards them because of the profits they made from selling a bundle of windfall shares.

PIMA's Mr Shipp believes much of the confusion was caused because of the hype surrounding the shares' "nil value" status. "Even quite sophisticated investors thought demutualisation shares were somehow outside normal PEP qualifying rules. They were not."

It remains to be seen whether investors will look to the new banks for some form of compensation. That will probably depend on just how big a slice of the around £18bn givewich Union and Woolwich all away, the taxman will now try

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Beasts of the road 10
Hot Spot: Paddington 12
SHOPPING Beasts of the road

publishing a number of features on Christmas spending and how to minimise the financial hangover many of us are likely to experience after all the bills come in. In the meantime, it makes sense to bear in mind a few tips on how to manage your money over the next few weeks.

First, rather than buying presents haphazardly, set yourself realistic goals in terms of how much you can afford - not per present, but overall. Include any sum you think necessary for food and drink over the festivities themselves.

Then decide how much of that sum should be allotted between different people you are buying presents for - and work out a basic food and drink budget too.

Finally, calculate how you are going to pay for those presents. Credit cards. particularly some of the cheaper ones, or those with low introductory interest rates, can be good value. But make sure that you pay off any outstanding balances as quickly as possible.

Remember: after you've finished paying off the Christmas bills, then comes the task of finding the money for your summer holidays. Just for once, take it easy.

CALL ME a cynic, but I smell something fishy in the protests by many insurers that the introduction of new NHS charges to be paid in the event of accidents to motorists will mean an increase in premiums.

that I agree with the industry that the Government's proposed Road Traffic Accidents (NHS) Charges Bill is a shameful back-door attempt to levy more money for the Health Service.



NIC CICUTTI

Do your sums before you splash out on Christmas presents – then start saving for the summer holiday

The Department of Health is clearly calculating that noone will notice if insurers are forced to stump up an extra £160m when motorists receive hospital care. Ultimately, however, the UK's 22 million car owners will have to foot the bill, which averages out at an additional "tax" worth about £8 for every driver.

This is plainly unfair After all, I see no plans by the Government to charge a "cirrhosis tax" on every pint of beer sold, or a "lung cancer tax" on every packet of fags.

Before anyone points out that cigarette and alcohol duties are already sky-high so are petrol and vehicle excise duties - this is the only "health tax" specifically related to the exercise of a lawful activity.

At the same time, I'm a little wary of insurers' complaints. They have been looking to raise motor insurance premiums for several years now, largely unsuccessfully to date. I note that the likely increase they are suggesting for an average motorist ranges between £10 and 10 per cent a year - an interesting gap, given that typical fully comprehensive premiums cost £400 or so.

The lesson to be learned, if I should state at the outset there is one, is that while the Government is doing us no favours, it may - without realising it, hopefully - be doing the insurance industry a big favour at the same time. Ordinary punters, as always, are the ones who get hurt.

Investing for real life

KAROL WAS born in New Zealand but has lived in the UK for 14 years, and intends to stay here. She is a basic rate taxpayer and has approximately £500 per month of surplus income after accounting for all expenses.

She currently rents a house and would like to buy a property, but feels that now is not a good time as she believes house prices are currently

Karol has £31,000 in a building society account and no other investments apart from 100 Abbey National "windfall" shares. She has no loans or debts. Her employer provides a generous benefits package, including a non-contributory pension scheme, permanent health insurance, death-in-service benefit (life assurance), and private medical insurance.

Karol has very little in the way of provisions for retirement. She contributed £100 per month into a personal pension plan for a few years up until about a year ago. This area is Karol's main concern, and as she is well aware that significant commitment will be required to provide a reasonable standard of living in

In addition to retirement, Karol is interested in making her capital work harder for her. She would also like to utilise her surplus income more effectively than just topping up the building society funds.

The adviser: Andy Harris is a director at Maddison Monetary Management, independent financial advisers, 44 High Street, Bagshot, Surrey, GU19 5AP (Freephone 0800

The advice: Karol has recently been advised by a representative of an insurance company to invest into a PEP and a Tessa. Both these investments could make sense.

However, she has also been advised to invest into a Maximum Investment Plan (MIP) with the same company. A MIP is an insuranceminimum term of 10 years. This a MIP has an element of life assur- gest at least £3,000. ance built in, and this life assurance obviously has to be paid for (deducted from premiums).

As Karol is single, with no de-pendants and no liabilities, she has

FINANCIAL MAKEOVER

NAME KAROL ALBURY AGE 39 **OCCUPATION IT TRAINER**

which is not needed. The charges also tend to be significant on these types of contract.

As far as planning for retirement is concerned, Karol should join her company's pension scheme in April 1999, when her employer allows her to. In addition, she should consider making additional voluntary contributions (called AVCs) or free standing additional contributions (known as FSAVCs) to top up her pension.

AVCs are provided by any employer offering a company pension scheme. FSAVCs are available from insurance companies. When deciding on which route to take, a major consideration is charges. FSAVCs generally have higher charges than AVCs, but are less flexible and generally give less investment choice. Karol can contribute to one AVC and/or one FSAVC so a combination could be the solution.

As Karol cannot join her company scheme until April of next year, she is unable to contribute to an AVC or FSAVC until then. She would therefore need to start contributing to a personal pension plan in the meantime. Karol would need to ensure that the pension chosen can be "converted" to a FSAVC next year without further charges.

If it is decided to go for an AVC from her employer next year, a single contribution might also be made into a personal pension from Karol's existing capital. She can currently contribute up to 20 per cent of her earnings in the current tax year.

As for investments and Karol's current capital in the bank, the first thing to consider is a "cash reserve". based, regular savings plan, with a a fund with instant access, and therefore available for any emerproduct would not necessarily be apgencies or opportunities which may propriate to Karol's needs because arise. In Karol's case, I would sug-The next consideration is that

Karol does intend to buy a property within approximately one year, a deposit would therefore be required. Karol is comfortable allowing for a no need for life assurance. She would 10 per cent deposit on a property therefore be paying for something costing around £80,000. She should



Karol Albury wants to make her money work barder for her

therefore retain £10,000 (this would pecially as the rules of the forthalso cover costs) in her building society account.

As previously mentioned, a PEP makes good sense. Karol can invest 26,000 into a "general" PEP (investing in unit or investment trusts). Consideration would need to be given to the type of fund chosen, as Karol would only be comfortable with a medium-risk one. This also means that the £3,000 which can be placed into a single company PEP would not be appropriate, as investing in any

one company is too risky for Karol. The Tessa also makes sense, es-

coming ISA will allow any Tessa already opened to be fully funded for the full five-year term. This means that up to £3,000 can be invested in year one, followed by up to £1,800 in the following years, subject to a £9,000 overall limit. The money she can set aside from her income could be invested into unit trusts on a monthly basis. These would be less costly than Maximum investment Plans (MIPs), and don't have unnecessary life assurance attached.

Karol is very fortunate that her company provides permanent health

insurance, private medical cover and death-in-service benefits. As she has no dependants, there is no need for further life assurance currently. Obviously, this may change when she buys a property, or if her circumstances change.

She may wish to consider implementing some critical illness cover (CIC). This is an insurance which will pay out a lump sum upon diagnosis of one of a number of major illnesses. This is the one area where she is unprotected, and could prove to be useful to her in a way that life cover simply would not be.

asn in on a cheaper mortgage

rate mortgages may be missing an opportunity to gain hundreds of pounds each - by paying hefty penalties and switching to a lower rate.

Mortgage lenders are urging homeowners with high fixed-rate loans to consider paying the price of redeeming their mortgages to take advantage of deals on much lower rates.

According to the lenders, the new deals are so cheap that the benefits of switching can outweigh the cost of paying redemption penalties, valuation fees and legal fees, possibly leaving homeowners with a substantial gain.

In one example, a homeowner half-way through a 10-year fixed-rate £100,000 mortgage with the Royal Bank of Scotland could realise a saving of £6,100 - even after paying redemption penalties (see example). Nick Deutsch, chief executive of First-

Mortgage Direct, says: "It is highly unusual to find that it really does [make sense] to pay off a redemption penalty. But when they set the redemption penalties, some lenders failed to anticipate how low interest rates

"Some of the redemption penalties set out in earlier years were couched in terms of 6-months' interest, which was inadequate to cater for the present interest rate

First Mortgage calculates that a borrower who now has three years to run on a 7 per cent fixed-rate mortgage, with a redemption penalty of 6 months' interest, can

switch to a three-year fix at 5 per cent. That comes to a saving worth 2 per cent of the mortgage every year. With re-demption penalties and re-mortgage costs of 3.5 per cent, the borrower will initially

be out of pocket. But after three years, the borrower will have made a saving worth 6 per cent of the loan. After deducting reredemption fees and remortgage costs, the borrower will save 1.5 per cent, or £1,500 on £100,000.

The benefits apply especially to fixedrate loans taken out in 1993, when a spate of long-term fixes began to appear on the market. Many lenders offered fixes at 8 per cent or more in 1993, when interest rates were believed to have reached their

Five years later, long-term interest rates - which determine what rate a lender can offer – have plummeted.

Ray Boulger, of mortgage specialists John Charcol, says: "When it comes to remortgaging for a better rate, some people are deterred by valuation fees and legal fees. However, in many cases it will be worthwhile because rates have come down to so low a point.

"If you are thinking of taking a view as

two things to look at: how much longer the fix has to run, and how much the redemption penalty is."

The switch is most worthwhile for homeowners with mortgages over £100,000, where the interest rate benefits will be enough to pay the high fixed costs of remortgaging.

Homeowners should think carefully before going ahead. Many of the most recent fixed-rate deals have stiffer redemption penalties than their predecessors. And if valuation and legal fees are not kept to a

minimum, the saving could be trivial. If a fixed rate loan has just a year or two to run, the benefits of the switch are unlikely to pay off the initial cost of re-mortgaging. The switch, in effect, is a medium-term investment: it only works if

it runs for a few years. But the opportunities are there. Home-

to whether it's worth switching, there are owners may not even need to pay the upfront costs of re-mortgaging when the price of the home has risen.

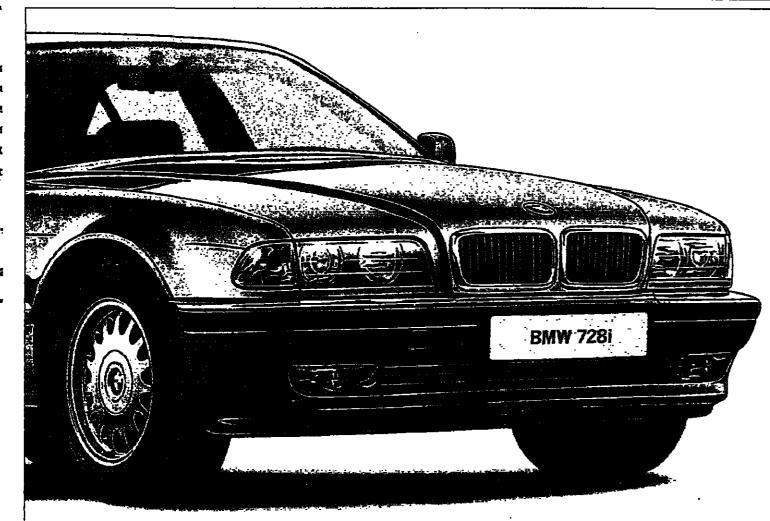
Stephen Knight, head of the Independent Mortgage Collection, a network of mortgage brokers, says: "The new fixed rates are significantly cheaper than a few years ago. It can in some circumstances be particularly worthwhile to pay the redemption penalty if the equity in your house has increased."

If the value of the home has gone up, lenders may be willing to add the costs to the value of the loan. A price rise increases the equity in the house, and thereby the security of the loan. In these cases, the amount being borrowed will rise and the time taken to pay off the mortgage may increase. But lower payments can then be realised without paying any upfront costs.

ANDREW VERITY

HOW IT CAN PAY TO SWITCH LOANS

- April 1994: Homebuyer takes out a £100,000 mortgage with the Royal Bank of Scotland which is fixed at a rate of 8.5 per cent until March 2004.
- December 1998: Homeowner remortgages to a Woolwich "Open Plan" mortgage, fixed at 6.19 per cent to 1 January 2004.
- Difference in rate: 2,31 per cent, a guaranteed saving in interest payments over the next five years of £11.203,
- Redemption penalty: £4,250.
- Costs of switching: £850.
- Net saving: £11,203 £4,250 -

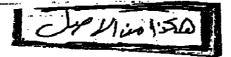


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SWITCH BOOK

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life, Sit down, this may come as a shock

How do you spot a genuine rare Eames rocker? Check out the shock absorbers. By **John Windsor**

ake a 1970 Eames rocking chair worth £600. Replace the fibreglass shell seat with a 1952 version and, hey presto! - you have what looks like a rare 1952 Earnes rocker worth £1,000.

Except that Christie's South Kensington's modern design specialist, Simon Andrews, has wised up to the fraud. He has found that the rubber shock mounts joining the two incompatible components never quite fit - and that there are sometimes tell-tale scratches left by a screwdriver.

Knowing your shock mounts - a nifty device borrowed from the car industry to give flexibility without upholstery - is all part of the trainspotter-like obsession that collecting furniture designed by the brilliant American husband and wife team Charles and Ray Earnes has become. Early models are revered as design icons and rare prototypes are fetching up to £7,500 at American auctions.

The modern look in furniture - minimalistic moulded plywood or metaldining chairs, sumptuously upholstered leather recliners with head-rests and separate Ottomans - is an Eames creation, instantly recognisable, inspired by the need to combine comfort and economy in the post-War world. He trained as an architect and taught industrial design at the Cranbrook Academy in Detroit. She was a painter. In the Fifties, their Los Angeles home, with the tongue-in-cheek name Case Study House, was an open-plan showcase for their innovative furniture.

Now is the time to gen-up on Earnes furniture, before prices spiral out of reach. Vintage items can still be bought for less than the ever-popular ones still bobbing off the production line; there is an Earnes retrospective at the Design Museum, on London's South Bank, until 4 January, and the first auction dedicated to Eames furniture, at Bonhams earlier this month - which included scarce American-made chairs seldom seen over here - has done that has become more mature, discriminating - even pernickety - over the past four years.

Who collects such things? Architects, designers and intensely houseproud people who want to seat their guests on landmarks of design and are capable of holding forth on the evolution of the enclosed metal disc in Earnes rubber shock mounts, should the conver-

If you want to avoid being lumbered with later designs in the mistaken belief that they are early ones, you will need to buy fat standard textbooks, with their Meccano-like diagrams of components, and you will also need to get

Look at the rare prototype DCM (dining chair metal) of 1945-6, pictured here. If you saw it discarded in a builder's skip, would you bother to fish it out? The experienced eye sees at a glance that the veneer is rosewood - now an endangered species, no longer used - and that it has acquired a patina. So, for a start, it has age. But it also has a plywood base that is compound moulded - that is, it is bent in three dimensions,) not just two, a comfort-giving innovation pioneered by the Eameses.

Further investigation with the help of a textbook reveals that the legs are zinccoated solid rods, not the later chromed tubular steel, that the plastic feet are the first of three known versions and that the metal discs of the shock mounts yes, it's those rubber shock mounts again – are exposed, not enclosed as in later, mass-produced models. Final cine that this is a valuable prototype: a hand-welded join in the metal T-support of the back-rest.

In fact, only six such prototypes were made, and this one has provenance that adds to its value - the Earneses made a present of it to their neighbours in California, the celebrated stage and screen performers Alexander and Doris Knox, in 1951.

It has never been thrown into a skip. Instead, it sold for a befty £4,600 at Bonhams this month, within its pre-sale estimate of £4,000-£6,000. At first glance it does look like an ordinary kitchen chair - but that is because its design has passed into common currency. It is no ordinary design.

Seasoned collectors check over not only the nuts and bolts but also the manufacturer's labels. They must be from the right manufacturer, such as "Evans Products Co", which worked closely with the Earneses and used four different labels in different years. They must also to be intact, rather like the dust covers of modern first-edition books. A label with a bit missing will actually lower the price. As Christie's South Kensington's Simon Andrews says: "All these little details are great fun - but they can also drive you mad".

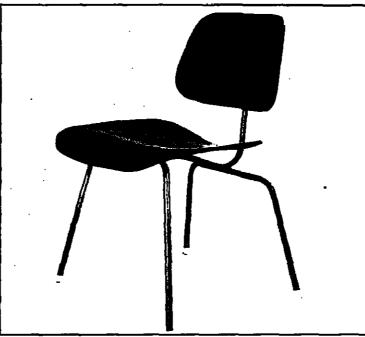
To prove authenticity, he advises cross-referencing design details that have known dates. Here is a worked example: a rocking chair designed in 1948-50, made by Zenith Plastics, that sold for £977 in Mr Andrews' October sale, topping its £700-£900 estimate. He dated it to the first production batch of the late Forties or early Fifties because of its grey colour Also, it has edges of reinforced, em-

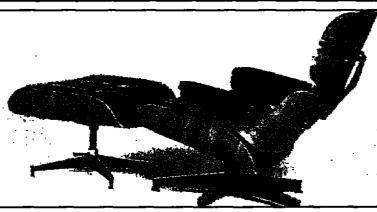
bedded cord, used to strengthen the oulded fibreglass – a feature abandoned in 1954-55 when harder fibreglass was developed. And the shock mounts? Authentic, pre-1955 models.

At auction you can still buy Eames DCMs, DCWs, LCMs and LCWs (dining and lounge chairs in metal and wood) of the Fifties and Sixties for £200-£300.

In Christies South Kensington's October auction, an Eames lounge chair with Ottoman - the 670 and 671 models of 1956 - by another celebrated maker, Herman Miller, fetched £1,840. These at auction. Two years ago, you might have picked one up for £1,500, four years ago for £1,200. A superb 1956 specimen with pale, beautifully figured rosewood veneer, made £2,990 in the Bonhams sale. But they need to be in absolutely tip-top condition. Leather may be crinkled, but definitely not split. Damage reduces value drastically. And beware 670 models with backs that have worked loose: that, dare one say it, is a design fault.

Simon Alderson, founder of the London modern furniture dealers twenty/wentyone sells Eames recliners in excellent condition for £2,000-£3,500. Vitra, which has succeeded Herman







days, they seldom sell for less than £1,800 From top: Eames DCM from 1945-1946 (£4,600), Eames Lounge chair and Ottoman (£2,990) and an RAR rocking chair from 1948-50 (£970)

with Ottoman for £3,167.80, including VAT - in cherry, not rosewood. Second hand, in Mr Alderson's shop, they sell for around £1,500 - which should encourage you to start shopping around for a vintage model.

Recommended textbooks: the bible is Eames Design by John and Marilyn Newhart and Ray Eames, published by Thames and Hudson (1989). Also: Charles and Ray Earnes: Designers of MIT Press (1995) and The Work of

Eames furniture, will sell you a brand- Invention, Vitra Design Museum (1997). new version of the 670 and 671 recliner The exhibition: "The Work of Charles and Ray Eames" is at the Design Museum, Shad Thames, South Bank (by Tower Bridge) London SE1 (0171-403 6933) until 4 January. Entry £5.25, concessions £4 . Bonhams (0171-393 3984): next Design sale, 24 February, 6pm. Christie's South Kensington (0171-581 7611): next Modern Design sale 17 March, 2pm. Dealers: twentytwentyone, 274 Upper Street, London N1 (0171-288 1996), Tom Tom, 42 New Compton Street, the 20th Century by Pat Kirkham, by London WC2 (0171-240 7909). Licensee/retailer: Vitra, 13 Grosvenor Charles and Ray Eames: A Legacy of Street, London W1 (0171-408 1122).

NO DISCUSSION this week of what is available on the Internet can avoid commenting on America Online's takeover of Netscape Communications for \$4.2bn. No money is actually changing hands, no Internet business. however crazy its stockmarket valuation, bas that kind of cash. It is a paper transaction in which Netscape shareholders will end up with AOL shares instead.

AOL, one of the few Internet businesses to be making actual profits, is the world's largest provider of online services, with 14 million members, slightly over half a million of them in the UK. With Netscape joining its existing AOL, CompuServe, AOL.COM, AOL Instant Messenger, ICQ and Digital City brands, AOL has a powerful and diverse family of brands in

AOL has also signed a three-year deal with Sun Microsystems to develop ecommerce software. Even the software giant Microsoft has applauded AOL's deals, describing the takeover of Netscape as a "stunning combination". Of course, Microsoft has its own axe to grind, hoping that the news will undermine the court case it faces in the USA over alleged monopoly practices.

It is too early to say definitively how the wheeling and dealing will affect us as individual users of the Internet. However, for those who had any doubts about the future of Netscape's browser software, it now appears assured, and e-commerce is on the way. You have probably heard that last comment before, but with



INTERNET **INVESTOR**

ROBIN **AMLÔT**

AOL pitching developments hard at its 14 million members, it is going to happen. Not that Microsoft is

standing still where the web is concerned. Its latest venture that concerns us is the new personal finance website, MoneyeXtra. This is a joint venture between Microsoft and the Exchange and goes live this month. The Exchange is a leading provider of online comparative personal financial information and transaction services in the UK, aiming mainly at independent financial advisers, providing them with access to over 600 sites from over 65 product providers. The new service

is pitched at consumers. As with many such sites. to access it, your browser must be accepting cookies. As the site will tell you, cookies provide personalisation and allow the website to remember your preferences. They also irritate the hell out of me. It seems more and more sites are actually refusing you any access at all unless you are prepared to accept these little software spies. However, while cookies

are a pet hate of mine. MoneyeXtra, when I checked it out, was running on a pre-launch basis. offering comparative services to find the best deposit and current accounts, credit cards, personal loans and mortgages. MoneyeXtra is also linked with a number of partner organisations, including Standard & Poors, Micropal, Financial Express, Prestel and This is London.

If you want a back-tobasics approach, offering education on personal financial matters, Financial Services Education for Consumers Limited (FSEC) has a website which does just that. It includes useful addresses. important dates in the financial calendar, common financial scenarios and case studies, and the financial information needed by individuals at their various life stages. However, the site does not purport to offer advice, stressing that the information is for your education.

The Department of Social Security is also attempting to educate us with a new series of leaflets about pensions. John Denham, the pensions minister, says: "Greater financial literacy and economic awareness is one of the government's key aims." The contents of these leaflets is available on the DSS's website.

MoneyeXtra: urcr.moneyextra.com FSEC: www.financialplanning.uk.com DSS pensions leaflets: www.dss.gov.uk.pen/index

Robin can be reached at RobinAmlote acl.com

An interesting fix

A savings account that guarantees to hold a decent interest rate? Surely some mistake. By Nic Cicutti

VIRGIN DIRECT, the slayer of financial giants, the aggressive defender of week contented itself with launching a savings account that offers a decent rate of interest and actually guarantees to

hold it there. Come again? The company's new instant access Deposit Account offers a rate of interest which is guaranteed never to be more than 1 per cent below the UK clearing bank base rate - at least until December 2001. Right now, that means a

rate of 6.25 per cent gross. In effect, Virgin, the great populariser of stockmarket "tracker" investments, is doing the same with savings

accounts. Other banks and building societies pay more, most notably Egg. the new telephone account from a Prudential subsidiary, which offers 8 per cent gross until the

New Year. Others, including the big supermarket neo-banks, Finance, are offering up to but not brilliant. 6.5 per cent on their instant access accounts. while Safeway is offering up to 6.75 per cent gross.

But what distinguishes Virgin's account from the others is that it does not require minimum investments of £2,500, as in the case of Safeway, to qualify for the higher rate: £1 will do. Moreover, the Virgin guarantee is timed to last longer than Egg's rates with them will drop by 0.5 per cent in January 2000 irrespective of what happens to base rates.

Virgin Direct's "tracker" approach to savings accounts, while worthy, includes an element of hype. By comparing itself to branchbased bank and building society accounts it aims to stand out more sharply. In fact, when set against supermarket and life

company rivals which also offer telephone-based instant access, the

The company rightly points to the fact that while more than two thirds of people have a branchbased deposit account, up to half of them don't know what rate of interest they are receiving.

Almost nine out of 10 can't be bothered to shop around for the best rate on a monthly basis and 85 per cent say they haven't done so in the past five years. Only 7 per cent do so every three years.

For the vast majority. then, a good deal which is guaranteed may be better than a fantastic one which is not. Although after 2001 even Virgin only promises to "aim" to pay 1 per cent below base rates. If it can't deliver on this, it will give savers three months'

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GUIDE TO FLEXIBLE MORTGAGES

by Nic Cicutti Sponsored by



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volatility. There's a word to conjure with. The Oxford English Dictionary describes it as "the state of being changeable, fickle...characterised by levity or flightiness". We in the City call it a pain in the backside.

It is, I'm afraid, a fact of life. Changes in market structure, new technology. and instant information all add up to driving forces that cannot be turned back. They add up to greater velocity in market movements. So what does the private investor do about it?

The first thing you do is not worry unduly. We are all in the same boat. professional and amateur alike. You may think that more volatile markets favour the professional. but I doubt this is the case. A technical analyst of many years experience once said to me that trying to time your entry or exit from the market was a mug's game: if you have cash, put it in. He was, of course, speaking when markets moved more slowly. Still, his message has relevance, even if it is that no one

should try to be too clever. For many professional managers, what they do with the funds entrusted to their care does not allow the luxury of timing anyway. Perhaps their mandate demands that money is invested immediately. Index fund managers are certainly constrained in this way, and that is one of the reasons why volatility is so much a factor these days. Increasingly, too. compliance requirements will lay down restrictions on how much cash can be retained in a portfolio, and for how long. But the ability to stand back and decide when to buy is an important benefit that private investors will increasingly find belongs only to them.

It's worth remembering that markets are high because more people are buying, and low when there is a preponderance of sellers. Yet you should be buying low and selling high. I spoke at a



BRIAN **TORA**

Speeded-up modern markets are seen as giving the pro investor an edge over

the amateur. Not so

conference recently on coping with volatile markets and ended with a little-used quote from one N M Rothschild: "Buy when the cannons are thundering, and sell when the violins are playing". Many private investors are in a better position to be contra-cyclical in their approach - and that is what Nathan Rothschild was urging us all to be.

Still, if volatility does one thing, it increases the argument for pound-costaveraging - that's the process by which money is dripped into the market on a regular basis. By investing in this way, you buy fewer shares when prices are high and more when they are depressed. Investment savings plans. such as those applied to investment and unit trusts, use this approach - and very effective it is too. It certainly takes the worrying out of timing.

In the end, we must simply learn to live with volatility. Like cutting the journey time from New York to London from days to hours, it is merely the result of the inexorable advance of the modern world. True, those seeking to buy a retirement annuity may feel uneasy. But it may even be that we will need pound-costaveraging when it comes to selling.

Brian Tora is chairman of the Greig Middleton investment strategy

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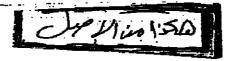
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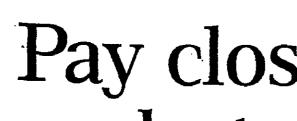
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Pay close attention to the chutzpah of chartists

hat does it take to become a successful technical analyst in hard-nosed world of Wall Street and the City? Beyond a sound knowledge of charting techniques, it helps to have a genuine feel for the shortterm direction of the markets and the ability to turn a happy phrase.

I have been looking at Robin Griffiths's charts on and off now for something like 15 years and always found his analysis lively and helpful: despite continuing to profess publicly (as all self-respecting followers of the markets do) that charting has no

real value as an investment technique The truth is, of course, that all serious investors look at charts of past price performance. Nobody can buy a share or investment fund without taking a look at how it has fared recently. At a basic level, all that price charts do is provide a visual picture of recent market action, information which could be gathered and presented in less obvious ways. The price movements captured in charts are, as Anthony Bolton of Fidelity puts it, the footprints that buyers and sellers leave behind them when they venture in to the market every day.

Charts can therefore give you a useful snapshot of the fluctuating balance of advantage between buyers and sellers. As such, they are an important adjunct to whatever other stock or fund selection method you yourself prefer.

The real high priests of technical analysis in investment have always claimed much more for their methods than this, of course. Their view is that share prices generally follow predictable patterns which, when subjected to the right analytical techniques, allow you to determine how they will perform in future.

This is a much more contentious issue, on which the evidence seems fairly clear. The scientific basis for believing that technical analysis can successfully identify market turning points is very limited. In practice, the most successful technical analysts are simply market strategists who make more good calls than bad ones. How and why they justify their conclusions is really neither here nor there. It is a marketing, not a methodological, point. For a pragmatic investor, what counts is how often they are right.

In my view, the one huge advantage



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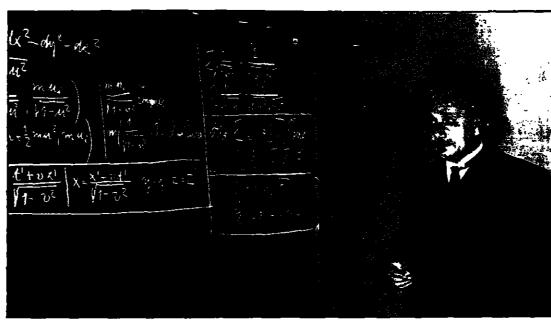
The US stock market is still in a strong secular uptrend, and fears of a global depression are proving to have been displaced

which technical analysts do enjoy over fundamental analysts is that their methods allow them to reverse tack completely overnight, without feeling any embarrassment. In Robin Griffiths' phrase, the role of technical analysis is to listen to what the market is telling you to do, not to try and tell the market what it should so. If the market's message changes, so too should you - even if it means doing and saying the complete opposite of what you said only the other day.

Not surprisingly, given the re-markable mood swings we have witnessed in the world's stock markets this year, most chartists have been on a rollercoaster ride. Having been bearish in the early summer, and sharing in the doom and gloom that afflicted everyone at the time, most of them are now picking up and responding to the current bullishness

Having hit a low in mid-October, it is now clear, says Griffiths, that the US stock market is still, as he always suspected, in a strong secular uptrend and that fears of a global depression are proving to have been misplaced. (From around June onwards, despite the gathering gloom, I have to record that Griffiths consistently and impressively predicted in his circulars that the second half of October would be the time to buy again in both Amer-

ican and European stock markets). That means the recent raily has plenty of scope to continue, in his view.



He expects the Dow Jones index to go on from its current level and top 10,000 before the next setback. Given that the market tends to hit new lows roughly every four years or so, having touched bottom this year, he is increasingly confident that the bull market will run, albeit with inevitable

hiccops, all the way through until 2002. He also now thinks that the Japanese market, after many false dawns, may finally be close to bottoming out. It is no longer safe to be out of that market if you are an international intment institution.

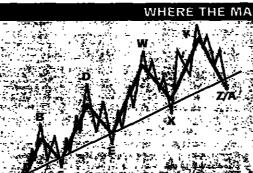
Two factors in particular will continue to drive the US market up, he thinks. In the short term, Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the Federal Reserve, has demonstrated yet again with his timely interest rate cuts (probably not yet completed) that he appears to have the measure of the markets, including the ability to manipulate investor expectations.

Longer term, the powerful demo-graphic factors, which have driven millions of individual Americans to plough more and more of their pension fund money into stock market mutual funds, have yet to play themselves out. Having moved his base from HSBC's London office to New York two years ago, Griffiths has been able to observe at first hand the powerful shift in investor behaviour and sentiment. He says he finds it easier to explain why so many European investors have been slow to grasp the importance of the demographic factors which have driven the recent bull market to its fresh peaks.

Turning to specific sectors, Griffiths

and drugs sectors. European car manufacturers, many of which have fallen 50 per cent from their highs, are also worth buying. He also thinks that the oil companies, like commodities generally, are also now very close to the bottom of their cycles. A golden rule in charting, says Griffths, is that falls of 50 per cent are invariably watersheds, from which either large

gains or complete despair result. The world will not be the same after the summer's crisis of nerves, Griffiths thinks. From now on, instead of "dog eats dog", investors face a climate of "capitalism with a pooper scooper" - more interventionist government, restrictions on short selling, and so on, But the overall message from the charts is simple. however: the bull market is intact, and the sumsays he is bullish about the telecoms mer crisis of confidence is over.



The lows of October 1997, according to Robin Griffiths were point A for the Dow Jones index. A was at 6953. B was at 9333. This index has just passed point C which we know was at 7400. Point D in mid next year may be over 10000.

Core European markets lag the US markets and have just completed leg Y to Z. France has been lagging in time and has just completed W to X. These opinions will hold as long as no set back this month goes lower than the lows of last October, which was point X for the core Europe

Till pensions us do part

Teresa Hunter on divorce and dividing the retirement pot

the most barrowing experiences people can face. Government officials, divorce lawyers and pensions experts met for high-level talks last week in a bid to hammer out a deal which could ameliorate the agonies of warring couples if not emotionally, at least financially.

The outcome of these talks was apparent in the Queen's Speech, where the Government laid out its plans for a new Welfare Reform Bill, which will in-troduce provisions for pensions sharing by divorcing couples.
But until the law is clarified

at the earliest at some point next year - those caught up in a marriage breakdown are trapped in a no-man's land of uncertainty. So what should they do next?

Further delays would be a bitter blow to many women, and some men, who have already endured lengthy postponements of their divorce proceedings in the hope of achieving a fair share of their spouses' pensions.

In something of a volte-face, experts who have battled for nearly 30 years for the right to split a pension, are now reluctantly advising couples to wait no longer, but press ahead with their proceedings. With some disappointment, they are concluding that pension sharing may not be the panacea to all ills that was hoped for.

Pension sharing offers the huge advantage of a clean break at divorce. It allows spouses to take cash from a partner's pension to start their own personal pensions over which they have sole control. Pension fund trustees must comply with any sharing orders within four months. Robin Ellison, head of pensions at the law firm Eversheds, says: "A quick divorce with a clean break is always the most painless option. "But in nine out of 10 cases

it's not worth stringing it out for the sake of a pension. The growing. Costs build up, people ture. That's human nature."

GETTING DIVORCED is one of get bad tempered and it all becomes counter-productive. No

one wins, you just go on losing." The downside of "sharing" relates to the way the pension is valued, associated costs and the requirement of English courts to make orders based not on a fair share of marital assets, but on the needs of the disadvantaged partner.

Robert Owen, of the Association of Consulting Acturaries explains: "In Scotland assets of a marriage are divided between both partners, but under English law they are split according to need. A court will grant a wise a pension only according to her need. If she has a modest but adequate one in her own right, she may get nothing of her busband's retirement pot."

Where a court does examine the potential for sharing a pension, it will use a "transfer value" of the fund to determine its worth. This is similar to a "surrender value" and as such a much lower figure than the actual worth of the ongoing fund. Under these arrangements, wives will almost certainly be shortchanged.

Finally, couples currently must meet the costs of any sharing arrangements themselves, estimated at around £1,200 - a huge chunk of a small pension pot.

Sadly, the alternatives are equally unsatisfactory. Earmarking, which allows a spouse to claim a portion of an exspouse's pension when he retires rather than at the point of divorce, simply hasn't worked.

The professionals believe that trading the retirement pot off against other assets will continue to be the most common form of sharing a pension. Mr Ellison says: "Few women will be terribly interested in a pension which starts many years ahead, if it means they no longer get to keep the house. The sad fact of the matter is that divorce normally entails financial hardship all round. People need cash. And they will always opt for cash today, bitchiness and bitterness go on rather than security in the fu-

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The insiders' guide to tax efficiency

Five people in the know reveal

E INDLPENDENT

how you can reduce the bill. By Iain Morse

HANDING OVER money to the taxman is hardly the most pleasant of tasks. You would think most of us would do anything legitimate in order not to pay more tax to the Inland Revenue than we need to.

In fact, surveys regularly reveal that many of us pay more tax than necessary, mainly because of a combination of ignorance and laziness. We asked five insiders in the

world of finance (an accountant, an independent financial adviser, a fund manager, a stockbroker and a retired private investor) how they manage to reduce their own tax bills.

All five agree that there are plenty of ways to save tax if you an be bothered to use them. They warn, however, that tax planning is not just about saving tax but having a financial plan that fits in with your longterm objectives. There is no point in saving a couple of hundred pounds a year if your in-



HERE IS OUR PANEL'S ADVICE

Nathan Parnaby, fund manager at Standard Life: "Start by marrying an accountant, as I have - you get all your tax advice for free. More seriously, don't make any financial decisions and never invest only for a tax break. Make sure that whatever you do is part of a wider financial plan.

"My wife and I don't keep much in cash.We believe in the long-term benefits of equity investment. I save into PEPs every month, have done for years, and invest in UK trusts (Standard Life's, of course) as they give excellent long-term value. Avoid lumpsum investment unless markets have just fallen – right now is a good time.

"Build up your pension provision. I'm in my employer's scheme and supplement this with additional voluntary contributions (AVCs). Every bit of pension provision counts. And it gets generous

Bryan Johnstone, stockbroker at Bell, Lawrie, White: "Only use tax breaks that add value to your investments. Now that husbands and wives are taxed separately, you can switch any investments to the spouse paying a lower marginal rate of income tax, or no tax at all. That's money saved at once, particularly on cash

"I also measure capital gains on my share portfolio. My wife and I switch investments to make full use of our respective annual capital gains tax allowances. Very often people don't.

"When it comes to pensions, I prefer 'self-invested personal pensions' (SIPPs). Not for everyone, these still offer a wider range of investment opportunities than 'off-

the-peg plans.
"I'll also be looking at venture capital trusts (VCTs). These can be risky, but allow you to roll over a capital

dent financial adviser and managing director at Chelsea Financial Services: "I cover my mortgage in two ways: my husband and I both have

PEPs, investing the full £500 per month. PEPs are exempt from capital gains tax, which is important if you cash in a lot of investments at once. Secondly, we have two endowments - still a very good option if kept to the full term,

with proceeds maturing tax

"Outside of PEPs, I invest in unit trusts with very little dividend income and change these to crystallise capital gains, taking up my £6,800 annual allowance. The CGT allowance is under-used for tax

"Last of all, I invest for each of my three children in growth unit trusts and in friendly society children's bonds. Some pay excellent returns. Remember, this can be a way of defraying a possible

Kevin Offer, chartered accountant at tax consultants JF Chown: "Over the last 20 years, many loopholes have been closed. So I would advise tax-payers to look at standard tax allowances. It's surprising how few use these to maximum advantage.

PEPs and Tessas, both to be replaced by the Individual Savings Account (ISA). Existing PEPs will be left in force, while Tessas will be allowed to run their five-year term. ISAs will have lower contribution limits so one attraction of starting a Tessa is that at maturity, the capital invested into it can then be transferred into an ISA on top of

"This year I'm looking at

bution limits. "Reliefs on venture capital trusts (VCTs) are good, too. There are four sets of relief, including roll-over of capital gains, 20 per cent income tax relief on the amount invested,

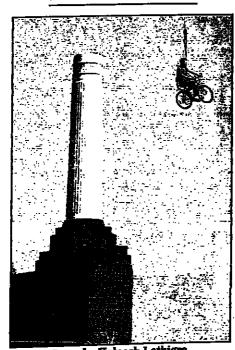
the account's annual contri-

Edward Murray, private investor: "I draw a pension, quite a good one, though it leaves me just in the lower tax bracket. My wife only has the state pension so I've switched as many of our investments into her name as possible, thereby avoiding having to pay any higher rate

"I've never liked PEPs the charges are too high. Instead, I use my capital gains tax allowance every year to realise gains which become 'income'. In other words, I spend them. This, in my view, is the cheapest way of managing a portfolio.
"Finally, we've written our

wills to take advantage of our respective nil-rate bands the amount you can give away free of inheritance tax to anyone other than your wife (all transfers between spouses are tax-free). This means each of us will give up to £154,000 to our children, retax-free dividends and capital ducing any possible tax bill when the Grim Reaper calls."

****THE INDEPENDENT PHOTOGRAPH**



Bungee Jump by Kalpesh Lathigra

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Drivers face injury bill

A new Bill looks set to add £10 to motor premiums By Andrew Verity

MOTOR INSURANCE premiums may have to rise by an extra £10 per motorist because of Government plans to make insurers pay the NHS to treat road accident victims, unsurers are warning

The Road Traffic Act (NHS) Charges Bill, to be introduced before the summer, is designed to make it easier for NHS Trusts to recoup from insurers the cost of treating victims. The bill was foreshadowed in

the Queen's Speech on Tuesday. Insurers attacked the bill, claiming it will force motorists to pay twice for the NHS, once through national insurance and again through motor insurance premiums. Andy Homer, chief executive

of Axa Insurance, said: "The aim of this bill is to shift the medical expenses incurred from motor accidents from the NHS to insurers, but in the end it will be the motorist who picks up the tab - as insurance preminms will have to increase. "Motorists under the new

for hospital charges twice." According to NHS estimates, 106,300 people required treatment for serious injuries as a result of road traffic accidents last year A further 411,700 were less seriously hurt. The cost of treating them was about £150m, which was borne by the NHS.

The Association of British In-



Accidents mean more bad news for drivers

£150m translates into an approximate £10 per motorist. The £10 rise will come on top of substantial rises in premiums over the past year - for sepa-rate reasons. Premiums have

over the past year. The reason is that insurers, who have written unprofitable motor insurance for years under intense price competition, want to return their busi-

already jumped by 10 per cent

nesses to profitability. Companies such as CGU, Royal & SunAlliance and GRE are finding it difficult to boost premiums on commercial business, where companies will simply take their business elsewhere. Motorists, however, are ruling will, in effect, be paying seen as relatively soft targets.

In January 1996, the average premium on a fully-comprehensive policy was £334.64. Now that has jumped to £431.67. The AA predicts that premiums will rise a further 10 per cent in the coming year - even without the extra cost of paying the NHS to treat accident victims.

Insurers claim another effect surers estimates that the ofpremium increases will be to est slap in the face.

tempt more motorists to break the law by driving uninsured. Already, almost 10 per cent of the UK's 23 million drivers do not pay for insurance. That, too, could rebound on

premiums rates. About £10 of every motor insurance premium goes to paying the costs of the Motor Insurers' Bureau, set up in the 1980s to compensate victims of accidents involving uninsured drivers. If the number of uninsured drivers rises, so will that £10 payment.

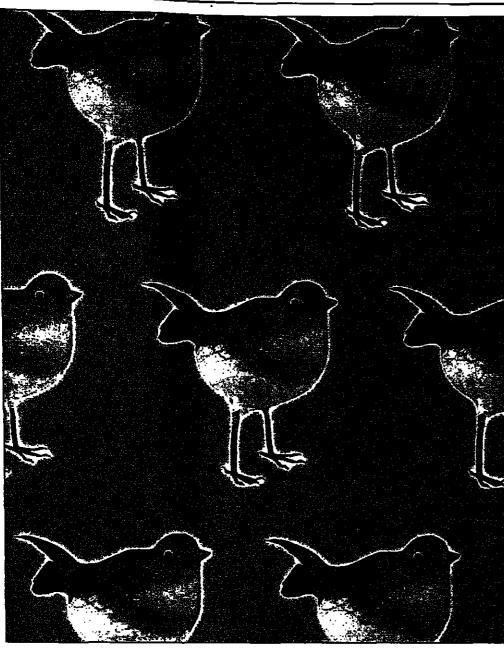
Surprisingly, the power to claim medical treatment costs dates back to road traffic acts as early as the 1930s. NHS trusts are already empowered to demand money from motor insurers for medical costs up to £3,000. But the practicalities of claiming have been mired in bureaucracy. The bill aims to streamline the procedures for trusts to recoup the cost of treatment, taking £150m off the

taxpayers bill for the NHS. For pedestrians at least, this could be good news. For motorists, however, it is but the lat-

Celebrate the Millennium with a guaranteed 6.9% return (gross p.a.) Millennium Visit your nearest Alliance & Leicester branch today and invest in our Millennium Plus × Bond. You can toast a guaranteed return of 8 6.9% (gross p.a.) until 31st October 1999. The comparison table below shows just how competitive this rate is. Alliance & Leicester 6.90% (min investment £1,000) Millennium Plus Bond Abbey National 5.25% (min investment £1,000) Woolwich Fixed 5.00% (min investment £500) 5.95% (min investment £2,000) When you reach the end of the fixed term of the Millennium Plus Bond on 31st October 1999, you will have instant access to your money. Furthermore, we also guarantee a further competitive interest rate at 0.5% (gross p.a.) below the Bank of England base rate until 31st December 2000. This offer is exclusive to Millennium Plus Bond customers. Hurry, this is a strictly limited offer. For further information, please call 0800 412 214 (Lines open 24 hours). **Alliance** Leicester Common sense in a crazy world

The fixed sate of 6.9% gross p.a. applies until 31st October 1999 From 1st November 1999 until 31st December 2000 (after which the Alliance & Leic exter-Millernhum Plas Bond metures) a variable rate (of 0.5% below the Bank of Ingland base rate) will apply this ground investment at 0.000 (£2,500 di nounts) inserest option is chosen) and resonant investment at 5500,000 per individual, laterest at psychic annually of, upon require, monthly, histerest will be payable net of income tax at the rate determined by the inland flavorous; or subject to the required registration, gross. Upon maturity, our open branch based savings account where no notice is required for withdrawals (courset), the instant Access Account) terms and conditions and sales of interest will apply full terms and conditions are available on required, for security and training pargoness behaviors. In therefore you and Alliance is Linconter pic, or its substitutes, will be recorded/monitored. Alliance is Linconter pic. Regatered Ottice 49 Park Lane, Landon W1Y 4LQ Company No. 3263713 Registered in England Authorised as a bank pursuant to the Banking Act 1987. Member of the Entire Rancoalous.

When it comes to gift wrapping, looks are everything. Rhiannon Batten gets busy with the sticky tape





Covering up: you may have got the wrong presents, but at least you can get some fancy packaging like these papers from Paperchase, left, and Designers Guild

Wrapping up Christmas

ping a gift comes in that wrapping that many shops will then duti-kitsch but pretty result. Alternatively, fully provide makes it almost worth buybracelet at Oasis is extravagantly treated to sheets of tissue paper secured with a fashionable sliver of tape: a solitary French Connection lip gloss is hidden deep down in a sleek, bright white bag.

More and more shops understand that the Nineties consumer is a sucker for a pretty package, whatever the occasion - and this is even more true at Christmas. when a stick of holly-patterned paper, a roll of Sellotape and a shiny stick-on bow just won't do any more.

For an original twist, and innumerable brownie points, stylist Beth Evans advis-

ever mind the thought, es making your own wrapping by cover-these days it's the wrap-ing your gift in plain, coloured paper — is making your own wrapping paper by tion also includes a pretty range of difhigh-street stores, walk coloured plastic flowers, cutting off the curing this with tangled gold ribbon. up to the counter clutch- heads and tying them on to a handful of thread buttons or chocolate coins on to get a really spangly look". Evans suggests sprinkling glitter across glue-swiped paper. For even more of a sparkle, throw sequinned stars inside the paper so that they scatter out on to the recipient's lap.

> Evans advises buying galvanised mini tins (from £3.50, After Noah) and filling them with shredded metallic paper. Or, place your present in a "bubbleope" (from £1, The Holding Company) and add a Christ-mas-tree decoration for a festive touch.

> More try-at-home ideas come from Labeena Ishaque, author of a new book, Paper Perfect (£17.99, Batsford). Includ-

is making your own wrapping paper by putting it in a padded box first if the shape painting gold-leaf squares onto Chinese counts. Even at many is awkward - and then buying a stem of or Arabic-language newspapers and se-

Those who never saw the point of Blue ing a purchase-to-be and the delicate ribbon to wind round the present for a Peter don't have to resort to the harlequined paper and shiny bow, though, because original and exotic wrapping papers ing something for this alone. A simple twine and twist it around the gift; or, "to are easily bought. Paperchase is the place to start if you want your wrapping paper to match your outfit. This year the design team has come up with a funky Christmas paper range that matches the season's sparkly clothes in a mass of glit-

Stars are the key motif: they appear boldly on black, silver or pink papers; in foil on various pastel ones; glittery on silver or gold; and silver or gold on pink, purple or aqua wrapping to name but a few of the mostly exclusive designs. Individual sheets of paper – including "kitsch" christmas designs such as robins, Santas and cherubs – cost from 85p per sheet,

tion also includes a pretty range of differently coloured cellophane rolls and leaf-shaped silver boxes for £2.

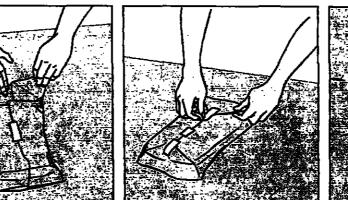
Other good places to seek out unusual papers include Bureau - which stocks around 30 papers and charges from 95p per sheet or from £1.99 per roll - and Designers Guild. The Designers Guild Christmas Collection is an innovative range of textural rather than traditional designs, in colours that sweep from deep magenta to brilliant lime, with names such as Maharaja and Magic Bird. Prices range from 40p for gift

tags to £15.80 for a giant teddy gift box.

If this sounds too impersonal, try somewhere with a good in-house giftwrapping service and choose something from its shelves. Czech & Speake will be wrapping all its toiletries in a specially designed silver paper, alternatively, the giftwrapping service at Selfridges costs between £2.50 and £10, and the staff will happily wrap anything from a Camembert to a cooker (two Ming vases were once treated to the Selfridges gift-wrapping service: in 15 minutes.

Finally, if you've ever wondered what the secret of well-wrapped presents is, Sarah Quiney, Selfridges' gift-wrapping su-Peter favourite: double-sided sticky-tape.

For details contact: Beth Evans (0171-627 2321); Paperchase (0171-580 8496); Bureau (0171-379 7898); Designers Guild (0171-243 7300); The Present Company (0171-610 5400); Selfridges (0171-629 1234); After Noah (0171-359 4281); The Holding Company (0171-352 1600)





IF I WIN THE LOTTERY TONIGHT...

STEPHEN WEBSTER, **JEWELLER**



MONEY MY attitude to it has always been the same right back to my first salaried position, which was restocking the shelves at the Six Bells Pub in Northfleet when I was 14. I did then and I do now gauge my total financial standing by the amount of real money (plastic not included) in the pockets of the trousers I'm wearing at the time. I have never felt the need to go home at the end of the day with any cash. but once it's gone, I'm broke.

Therefore, my first sober move after winning the jackpot - the first unsober one would be buying the Six Bells - would be to purchase some special combat trousers with expanding side pockets - you can request anything when you're rich.

Aware of the minor hiccup that outwardly I would appear to be suffering from chronic water retention in the thigh area, inwardly I would be secure in the knowledge that in my mind I would be feeling as good as it can get because I had vast pockets of money. The main disadvantage to this stupidity is that no matter how large my fantasy pockets are, I would still have a fair wedge in the bank.

Top of my list of beneficiaries come my parents. Tom and Jean, the most supporting, unselfish couple on the planet. Consequently, material wealth has passed them by and a cheque would be useless; they would keep returning it with a note saying.
"We can't think of anything we need." So gifts it would have to be. Mum has been ill lately, so completion of her treatment would have to be administered by George Clooney and the ER team.

For Dad, a fully restored Mark 1 Capri, the dream car that eluded him. We could then take the wheels off his rusty Nissan Stanza and turn it into an exotic flowerbed of shrubs for Mum.

Closer to my pocket comes my partner, Assia. As hard working and princess, so perhaps we could buy a title in eastern Europe, followed by a walk-in wardrobe complete with aquarium-style bar and private patio. She could then borrow my special trousers - fully loaded of course - for a special one-off

shopping spree. Moving on, there is Amy, my seven-year-old daughter, who already seems to be aware that you can buy a small electric Mercedes 500SL Sports. On second thoughts, she'd also be happy with a private All Saints concert. After all, I wouldn't want to spoil her.

Finally, as a jeweller. I would like to treat myself to a pair of my cufflinks, and a couple of shirts to go with them. And that will mean a new suit (large pockets) ...

Stephen Webster is UK Jewellery Awards Designer of the Year (view it at Harrods or by appointment at 1a Duke Street. London, 0171-486 6575). Interview by Diona Gregory

SHOP TALK

ESTABLISHED IN 1994 by Anita Jenkins, then co-buyer and own-label designer at the exclusive homewares shop Graham & Green, 3F began life as a womenswear label, selling covetous and sleek modern designs with a cosy edge to them.

In 1997 the company successfully launched 3F Home, a range of ageless and sexless clothing specifically designed to be worn individually. however the wearer chooses - whether to travel in, eat in, sleep in, go out or play in. A well-received collaboration with The Conran Shop began in the same year, supplying interiors items as well as clothing, and in October of this year, the company set up a new mailorder service.

The 3F Home catalogue offers the same relaxed range, featuring linen pyjamas (£89 for adults or £49 for children: velvet-trimmed knitwear from £85, drawstring trousers from £49, kimono robes. £195, and a sophisticated home collection that includes bedlinen from £7, throws for £75, and toiletries from £4.50 each. Best of all, if your order tops £150. you receive a complimentary ribboned box of fortune cooldes.

To request a catalogue, call 0171-387 9100, or access the website at: www.3Faj.co.uk



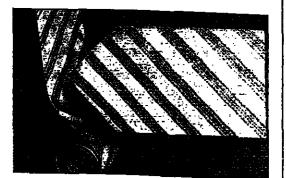
STOCKING FILLER OF THE WEEK

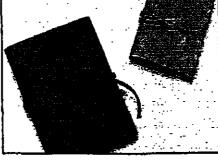


BOW DOWN and surprise a loved one with some truly bella pasta. Almost too pretty to munch on, this stripy farfalle pasta comes in all the season's colours - pink and black, turquoise and black, and black and white and costs £5.49 per 500g bag, from Selfridges, London

OUT WITH THE OLD IN WITH THE NEW

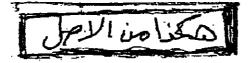
A FAVOURITE standby gift for many an uninspired gift-giver, the tie is arguably the classiest of classic gifts - if perhaps the least surprising. Snooty gift receivers will not be disappointed with a tie. however, if it comes with a neat Paul Smith label. Fit for a dedicated style king, the striped tie shown here costs £39. For stockists, call 0171-379 7133 ...





... or, if the prospect of buying a tie is just too horribly predictable to contemplate, get someone all tied up instead with a leather-bound tie-strap notebook from Papyrus. Available in either tan or chocolate. the notebooks come in three sizes, cost between £9.50 and £17.50 and are available by mail order or direct from Papyrus. 48 Fulham Road, London SW3 (0171-584 8022).

1



appreciates the importance of quality head-

"cans" in such contempt that they

would never consider owning a set,

were it not for the proliferation of

the personal stereo, which, of

course, comes equipped with

free ones. These people are un-

likely to have ever experienced the

trainspottery buzz of putting on a

new CD and being delighted by the

discovery that a seemingly two-

dimensional song played on a

cheap stereo unfuris into virtual

stage play when headphones are

worn. Take the intro to Timbaland's new album, for instance,

wherein you find yourself strolling

alongside - and having the same

blushing perspective as - vocalist

TK Kirkland as he observes that

the woman walking ahead of him has a great future behind her.

ever stomp all over your life, then

the enjoyment of headphones is

doubled. After the watershed, you

can listen to whatever the hell you

like, safe in the knowledge that your little angels won't be disturbed by you playing your old Beastie Boys 45s at ear-threaten-

ing volume. OK, so you may look like a prat in humungous state-ofthe-art ear mufflers, but only you,

Should the patter of tiny feet



IF I WIN T_{HE} LOTTERY

TONIGHT. STEPHEN WIRSTIR



MONEY We attribute to a has also grant the sound notes process me salaried por mon which was Language to the Trito of the party of the 26 Rolle I pile in Northwest when I so 14 I did then and the non-gain this testal formational standing by the amount of the prince black m an interior of the local south transer's life wearing of the time Price the sale is if the med to do per at the end of the day with an es put once it a tem l'ai profe

Therefore my and soher more after attitude the landing the fig. managed out of early in priving the Beilt. Manifelte to purchase ses squeeza combat (no sets with anthematical and the party south for

trained and their a policy of the An are of the content having could apply be an ablancation authorities to make on montaler Peter Park that dealing I would be to be to look to that many word have silve beime. 1.11.0

> your partner and the cat ever 1.1.1 need know about it. $(1,\cdot^k)\otimes \underline{u}_k^{n-1}$ **AUDIOPHILE HEAVEN** Name: Beyerdynamic DT 911 **Stockists:** 01444 258258

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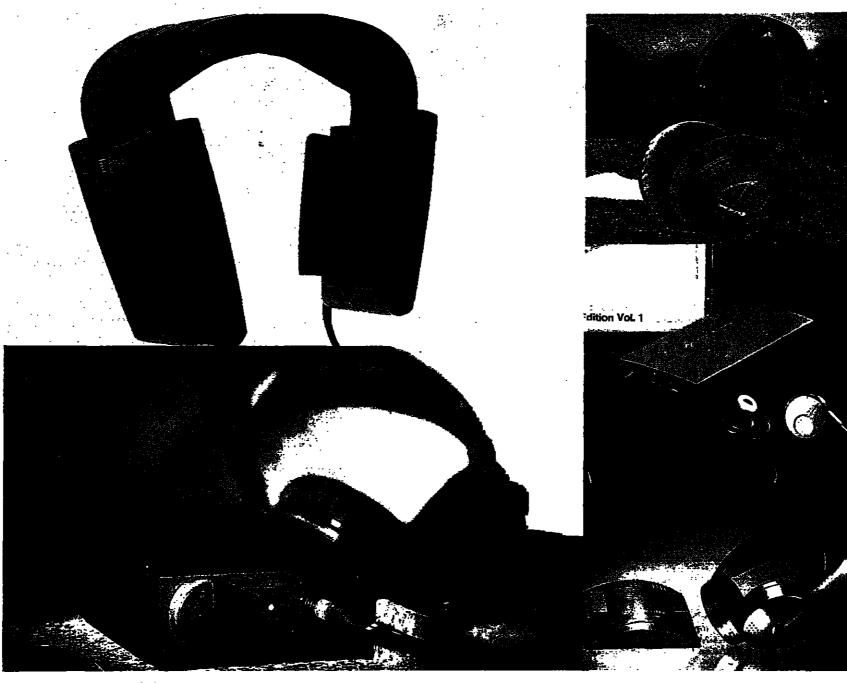
· 中 100 年 and we 数私 种* Description: Big, but not overly bulky, German headphones (275g), with stitched headband and earphones padded with velvet-covered cushions ensuring comfort for the long-haul headphone wearer. Likewise, the sound is warm, full nd impressively clear, even at low volume. Call it vorsprung durch technik if you must - the packaging prefers to hyperventilate: "triple neodymium 'rare earth' magnets for high efficiency and Bluffer specs: SPL 98dB; operating principle 5Hz-35KHz, THD less than, or equal, to 0.2%.

Suitable for: Anyone whose record collection is bigger than their head.

Style rating: *** Any others worth considering? If money really is no object, then nothing competes with Sennheiser's Orpheus system (£9,652; stockists: 01494 551531). Comprising an A-valve amplifier base unit and electrostatic headset, this limited edition (300 only) model is handmade from walnut, stainless steel and glass. Slightly less expensive, the company's HD 565 Ovation (£149) bear comparison with the Beyerdynamic DT911s. In fact, they are marginally more comfortable, due to their light weight (225g), a thick, jointed headband and phones with Xtra-large, cloth-covered sponge doughnuts which circumnavigate the ear (they call it "circumaural"); and are more stylish (the mesh on

I WANT...A FUNKY PAIR OF HEADPHONES

The route to a secret world of sound



You may look like you're wearing humungous ear mufflers but a decent pair of headphones will make all the difference to the sound of your CDs. Clockwise from top left: Jecklin Ergo 2; Beyerdynamic DT 911; Stax SR0011; Sennheiser RS400; Naim

superior transient response "Jo? in the case of Beyer). The lead is (God knows, they'll need some moment a solid object comes 3m long, comes equipped with 3.5/6.3mm jack plugs and is made Style rating: ** of kevlar.

> **EXECUTIVE TRAVEL** Name: Stax SR0011 Price: £270

Stockists: 01494 441736 Description: At first glance the Japanese made Stax SR0011 look like basic portables that have been deconstructed by an inquisitive infant. The metal headband is similar to those on the freebie ones given out on inter-continental flights, and the circular plastic earpieces have little black snouts sticking out of them with clear plastic rims that are reminiscent of something you'd be made to put into your shell-likes for an NHS hearing test. This probably ex- to pre-digital cordless telephones: plains why they fit so snugly. And the sound, when boosted by an accompanying granite-coloured driver unit (hence the expense) the size of a small mobile phone, is phenomenally bright and clear.

thing that'll help to pass the time).

Any others worth considering? For those in the cheap seats (or in the loo, trying to avoid the ticket inspector). Aiwa's HP-V551 (£12.99: 0990 902 902) in-ear 'phones do an acceptable job, considering they are a 20th of the price and boast a gold-packed mini-plug and "airfit technology", plus an annoyingly difficult-to-use cord-winding

MAN ABOUT THE HOUSE Name: Sennheiser RS400 Cordless Radio Headphones Price: £79.95

Stockists: 01494 551 532 Description: Cordless headnhones have a similar reputation move more than six feet away from the source box and the signal becomes so distorted that it sounds like Squarepusher has done a drum'n'bass remix of your favourite Elaine Paige CD (if only).

between you and the signal transmission unit, and the technology begins to seem somewhat limited in its use. The lightweight (160g with battery), closed-back, RS400 radio wave headphones aren't perfect either (if you walk out into the street, they tend to suffer signal failure when you walk past lampposts, and cut out before von reach the cornershop), but they are very versatile and surprisingly good all-round performers. You can even pick up a signal through walls (the sound was astonishingly

ungarbled, even in my neighbour's front room) Bluffer specs: Wireless transmission frequencies 863-864 MHz; frequency response 20Hz-19.5KHz; SPL 103 dB.

Suitable for: Green-fingered Scritti Politti obsessives with short gardens. Style rating: ***

Any others worth considering? If you want high-end audio quality, then search out the Sennheisthe exterior of the headphone case is metal, rather than plastic the posh seats on Virgin trains and to cut out the production, but still available to

special order, these infra-red No, these are in an electroheadphones are unique in transmitting digital signals, which are decoded by the headsets.

THE WILD ONES Name: Jecklin Ergo 2

Stockists: 01756 793777 Description: If you're young enough to remember the Cybermen in Dr Who, you will have a pretty good idea of what you'd look like wearing a pair of Ergophones. Reassuringly clumpy (like those Seventies Pioneer SE-505s), these Swiss-made monsters are huge and slab-like. When you put them on it feels like your head is being gripped by a sponge-lined vice. The sound quality can't be argued with, but you won't want to be seen opening your front door to anyone in these. Even to the pizza deliv-

ery man Bluffer specs: THD less than 0.3%; SPL 96dB; 380g. Suitable for: Crichton of Red Dwarf.

Style rating: * Any others worth considering?

magnetic field of their own.

LITTLE BLACK BOX Name: Naim

Price: £205 (+£170 for an additional NA PSC power supply) Stockists: 01722 332266 Description: Many top-end hi-fis don't have headphone sockets the theory being that the boxes are fine-tuned for one specific function; speaker amplification. In these instances, you'll need an extra little black box to accommodate your 'phones, hence this mun-dane-looking but highly effective output and volume. Suitable for: Rich music buffs,

Style rating: * Any others worth considering? You can upgrade the power supply. The Hi-Cap is £700 (plus £22 for an SLIC interconnector).

SHAUN PHILLIPS. DEPUTY EDITOR, ZM

With thanks to Graham's Hi-Fi (0171-226 5500) for the use of their listening facilities and their congenial service

SIX OF THE **BEST**

FLEECY ACCESSORIES



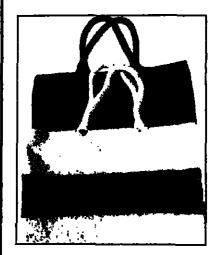
Sherpa mittens, £12, GAP (enquiries 0800 127789)



3-in-1 hat, scarf or face mask, £9, Regatta (0161-749 1313)



Hat, £14.50, Henri Lloyd (0161-799 1212 for stockists)



Felted wool bags, from £60, Amimono (0171-738 0190)



Furry satin-lined how water bottle cover, £28.75, Graham & Green (0171-727 4594)



Mitford Polarfleece-covered sofa. from £1,485, Derwent Upholstery (enquiries 01773 604121)

CHECK IT OUT HIDDEN ART OPEN WEEKENDS

can't face another battle through in Clerkenwell, or the ceramicists the high-street crush in search of and furniture-makers in Hackney. the same Christmas presents as ternative shopping experience. Around 600 designer makers

are taking part in this year's three Hidden Art weekends, which are now established as one of the and lamps. capital's regular pre-Christmas events: Ceramics, glass, furniture, jewellery, mirrors, mosaics, clocks, hats, lighting, paintings and fashion are on sale for a fraction of the prices they would command in the shops, and there are demonstrations and mulled wine to inspire you while you browse.

"You can buy anything from £1 to £11,000, from well-known designers to those who may turn out thes. We can play around with to be the new up and comings," says Dieneke Ferguson, the project's director. To help you find your masterpiece of the future, a specially produced Hidden Art map points out chusters of studios, such £45 for a vase) and, as well as glass

FOR PRESENT-HUNTERS who as the watchmakers and jewellers

My own first stop was Columeveryone else, the artists and artisans of London's East End are the street markets of Brick Lane opening their workshops for an alof this 19th-century mews workshop are filled with brightly coloured plates; the shelves are lined with delicate tumblers, vases

Co-founder Nick Blackmore guides me through Sputnik lights, K2 table-lamps and the striking Milifioris: more usually found shining away in Purves & Purves or Harrods. Along with the recognisable, there are some pieces that never reach the shops. "Hidden Art gives us the chance to experiment," says Blackmore, pointing to a table full of twisted glass botbrighter colours, unusual shapes; take more risks. The rest of the

year we are judging the market." Visitors can buy these one-off





prototypes for one off prices (£25 to Hidden gems: left, cushions from Cressida Bell and, right, the Medusa light from Columbia Glassworks

blowing demonstrations, there's are also open for the occasion, inlove it, but adults cheat by feeling what's inside," says Blackmore. A few doors down is London Timepiece, which restores 20th-

century clocks (from £30 to £300) and displays school, railway and traditional wooden clocks Moss Brothers Metal Designs displays a collection of wrought-iron furniture; round the corner is Columbia Road, with its artisan shops and Sunday flower market.

Ten minutes walk to the north and you reach 20 more venues around The Broadway, next to London Fields. Here normally empty premises jostle with the more permanent workshops, displaying the work of scores of people - hats by Alva Wilson in the Hat Gallery; ceramics by Karen Bunting, Dimitra Grivellis, Sue Whimster and Penny Fowler, amongst others, at Broadway Ceramics; plus Christmas decorations, photographs, sculptures,

mirrors and furniture. Several studios in the vicinity site: www.hiddenart.co.uk

also a £2.50 lucky dip - "Children cluding that of textile designer Cressida Bell, author of The Decorative Painter (Conran Octopus, £17.99) and granddaughter of the Bloomsbury's Vanessa Bell. In her top-floor studio, she makes hand-printed silk and velvet scarves, ties, cushions and lampshades. "I used to have a shop in Holborn, but people missed coming to the studio." she explains. "It's great for me, too, because I can see people's reaction to dif-

> production." This is only one possible route: others could take you via Hoxton Square, Clerkenwell or Brick Lane. There is a lot to choose from - plus the bonus of knowing you'll have a good tale to tell about where you got your pressies from. KAREN FALCONER

ferent lines before I put them into

Most studios are open 28 & 29 Nov and 4, 5, 6, 12 & 13 Dec. For further details and a Hidden Art map, call 0171-729 3301, or contact the webSubaru's Impreza is a real beast. Why not turn it into an absolute monster? By John Simister

aru works rally team. and its four-wheel drive Impreza turbos have been winning world championship rallies for years. Inevitably the kudos has rubbed off on Subaru's standard road version. Nowadays £20,000 is as fast or clings to the road so determinedly while being as laughably easy to drive, and nothing at all has an engine which sounds quite like the Impreza's offbeating flat-four. It's like a biglunged, deep-throated Volkswagen Beetle without the clatter.

But wouldn't you like to get just a little closer to the rally experience, to drive a yet faster, leaner, meaner Scooby-doo? Then ask your dealer to send your car to Prodrive to be made into an Impreza WR. On its an uprated suspension, a brakes and gearchange package, a re-modelled interior and an engine with more power. It won't be cheap. mind; £10,164 all in, although you

can buy the packages separately. Start the engine, hear it idle so oddly it sounds as though it's misfiring, and select first gear. The gear-knob has an aluminium finish, and its lever has shorter more click-firm movements than before.

As usual, we have to wait a second for the turbocharger to spin up to speed. When the turbo-boost arrives, though, you hear a strange noise and fireworks erupt. It's a flutter, a growl and a whoosh all at once, which sorts itself out and hardens

rodrive runs the Sub- rocket. And it's ready and waiting in any gear, at any time.

The standard car is plenty quick enough for most tastes, what with 208hhp and a lively 6.4 second 0-60mph time. But there's a deal of extra violence on offer here, thanks to more boost, a freer-breathing air filter and the drainpipe-sized exit's a cult car: nothing else under haust that makes that deep burble. The result is 240bhp, with a similar rise in pulling power to 240lb ft. of torque (up from 214).

You'll need just five seconds to reach 60 now, but the mountainous torque, most of it available as soon as the boost has built up, is what makes the WR such a catabult overtaker. Usually, you don't change down a gear, just see a tiny gap, foot down and you're through. Yet it can amble right down to walking pace and accelerate again, clutch pedal untouched, without a single jerk, return, your car will have a bodykit, and it can cruise serenely as fast as you like.

For the next trick, find a bend, and drive through it about half as fast again as you think the laws of physics will allow. The WR slices round the corner, hyper-accurate steering telling you exactly what is

happening where tyre meets road. It's easy to frighten people coming the other way, because they don't think a car travelling so quickly can stay on the road, but the WR clamps itself to the ground and pours out its power to whichever wheels can use it best. If you overdo things, just ease off or touch the momentum-munching brakes. You won't unsettle the Subaru; it waits until you've sorted yourself out, then does exactly as it into a meaty blare as the revs is bidden. All this and a supple ride, rather have.



Caution: the WR may frighten oncoming drivers, who can't believe its sticking power at speed

too. Never have I felt as relaxed at speed on wet roads.

Don't confuse the WR with that other souped-up Impreza turbo, the WRX. This is an "unofficial" import which costs about the same as the Prodrive WR, is more powerful (280bhp-plus), and has shorterlegged gearing and rock-firm suspension to provide maximum rally-car thrills within Japan's road

conditions and tight speed limits. The Prodrive WR is designed to be driven in Europe without wearing you down. Both are extraordinarily capable, but after the novelty has worn off, I know which one I'd

Subaru Impreza WR by

Prodrive Price: £30,165 (standard Impreza Turbo plus Prodrive con-

Engine: 1,994cc, flat-four. 16 valves, turbo, 240bhp at 5,600rpm. Transmission: five-speed gear-

box, four-wheel drive. Performance: 150mph, 0-60 in 5.0sec, 25-30mpg

SPECIFICATIONS

Audi A4 2.8 quattro: £28,900. Slower than the WR, but more solid and better furnished. Feels heavier and more aloof, but shares the wet-road peace of mind of four-wheel drive.

Honda Accord Type R: £23,250. Fast, fine-handling, sporty version of Honda's latest Accord. Roomy and well-built.

but lacks the Subaru's bombastic personality and ultimate pace.

Volvo S70 T5 SE: £27,155. The second-maddest 70-series Volvo (250bhp S70R is much pricier) matches the WR for turbocharged power, sounds great and is bigger - but lacks the WR's astounding cornering

Made in Britain, conceived overseas

WE'VE RECENTLY seen a new Jaguar, a new Rover, a new Land Rover Discovery, and a deal to save the Longbridge factory in Birmingham seems imminent.

But don't get too excited. While Britain remains a major manufacturer of cars, our future as an engineering nerve-centre for ground-breaking new models has never looked bleaker. Increasingly, "our" new cars are being conceived and developed overseas.

Let's start with Jaguar, probably Britain's best-loved car maker, and the only home-grown manufacturer with much to cheer about right now. Its new S-type has underpinnings which are as much Ford (USA) as Jaguar (UK) and its V6 engine is imported from a Ford factory in Cleveland, Ohio. In other words, it is the most non-British Jaguar in history.

The next new Jaguar model, codenamed X400, is due in 2001, and it will compete with the BMW 3-series. It will be the smallest and cheapest Jaguar

ever. Its underpinnings will be shared with the new Ford Mondeo, which is largely engineered in Germany. And its V6 engines will be imported from Ford in America.

The Range Rover, probably the Rover Group's most respected model, is replaced in 2000. The new one uses the suspension, floorpan and transmission of the just-released BMW X5 fourwheel drive model. It also uses BMW engines. Technically, it will be more German than British.

The new Rover 75 is largely British, but it could well be the last Rover saloon primarily engineered in the UK. There is a strong chance that all upcoming Rovers will be engineered with much more foreign input, as BMW searches for technical partners to ease costs at Rover. The new Mini, due in late 2000, uses an engine developed by Chrysler in America and built in

Rolls-Royce is now owned by VW, and the name passes to BMW in 2003,

Publications



GAVIN GREEN

While Britain remains a major manufacturer of cars, our future as an engineering nerve-centre for ground-breaking new models has never looked bleaker

after a complicated deal recently thrashed out at a German golf course between the bosses of BMW and VW. BMW has confirmed that the next new Bolls-Royce model, due in 2003. will be engineered by BMW in Germany, although it will be built in Britain. As with the current Rolls-Royce Silver Seraph, it will have a BMW engine

VW will be left with Bentley. It is working on a new Bentley saloon, pictures of which have been splashed around the specialist motoring press. That car will use a Volkswagen engine, and will be largely the result of Ger-

man brainpower. New Land Rover models will invariably be developed more and more by BMW in Germany, partly because BMW is convinced that its engineers are cleverer than Rover's. (On recent evidence, it is hard to argue with that.)

A much-mooted new Austin-Healey sports car is likely to use the BMW 23 roadster underpinnings and a BMW

engine. It is also likely to be built at a BMW factory in South Carolina, USA. It may be "Trad British" in style, but there won't be much else British

Vauxhall, of course, now engineers all its new cars in Germany. Ford has moved most of its senior European engineers and managers to Germany, too, and Japanese-badged cars built in Britain (Nissan, Toyota and Honda) are all conceived by Japanese minds, with the odd technical input from those companies' engineering satellites in Germany or Belgium.

Meanwhile, UK car production continues to grow, New Labour pats itself on the back for overseeing "the return to health of a crucial industry", and our union leaders become more and more moderate in their desperate attempts

to safeguard blue-collar jobs. And while this is going on, all the top car-industry jobs, which require a good education and good qualifications, are being quietly transferred overseas.

MY WORST CAR

ROGER BLACK'S OLDSMOBILE CUTIASS

Fast men in a slow mobile



IT WAS 1986 and Chris Akabusi and I went to California to do some winter training. The only problem was that we didn't have any money. We were staying a long way from anywhere and getting to the track, our accommodation, or meetings was a complicated business. We were so strapped for cash, even taxis and buses were out of the question. In short, we had to have a car.

We trawled around the renta-car sites until we eventually found one we could afford. What they gave us was truly hideous. It was a big brown Oldsmobile and it was going to be ours for a mouth.

If I remember rightly it was an Oldsmobile Cutlass, which was a huge four-door saloon with a V8 engine. So although the rental was a reasonable \$4 a day, it easily cost \$20 in petrol. One reason for that may have been that it actually leaked petrol. It must have been a major fire hazard from day one. but the rental company did manage to put that right before we went up in smoke.

The big problem though was overheating. Every few days the temperature gauge would hit max, there would be loads of steam and cursing from us as it came to an unscheduled stop. Then we had to find somewhere to get water from, although eventually we got wise and took our own supply.

On a couple of occasions it really dropped us in it because we'd be stuck in the middle of a desert waiting for the car to cool down when we should have been warming up for an athletics meeting 20 miles away. It never failed to get us to where we wanted to go, it would just take a lot longer than we

Actually, we got rather ttached to that Oldsmobile by the end. Although the colour was horrible it was quite comfortable, with really soft suspension and that big, lazy. thirsty V8 engine.

Ultimately it was cheap and did its job. The fact we were breaking down in California helped. If we'd had that much trouble getting to and from a windswept and rainy Crystal Palace meet we would have minded a lot more.

Olympic athlete Roger Black presents Fighting Fat, Fighting Fit a video from BBC Worldwide at £10,99, which takes 10 volunteers through their paces to see how they shape up over a 10-weck period. He was talking to James Ruppert

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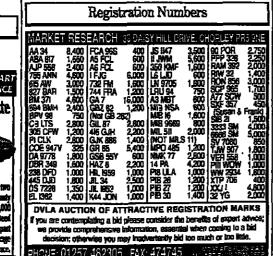
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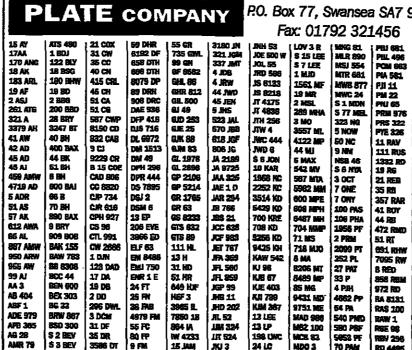
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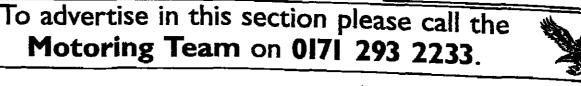
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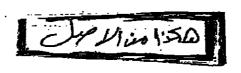
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PROPERTY

te. History in the making

Listed buildings needn't always be a nightmare to restore. By Mary Wilson

might dream about buying a dilapidated listed house and bringing it back to its former glory, but the majority are daunted by the enormity of the task, the problems of dealing with English Heritage, listed building officers and planners.

Any purchaser interested in listed property should proceed with caution" says Martin Higgins of Ekins Surveyors. "The Planning, Listed Building and Conservation Areas Act 1990 governs what you can and can't do. A breach is a criminal offence punishable by a fine of 220,000 and/or imprisonment."

That puts most people off, but occasionally properties come on the market with all the hard work done. Planning permission has been obtained, major structural work

done - but there is still the interior. Mr Higgins says: "When you buy a 'shell' property that is listed, you must be aware that you need to go

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purchasers though the process of gaining ap-dream about provals for all the work you intend to do to the interior.

You will need to be careful about room divisions and about not losing architectural features such as fireplaces and decorative plaster work." In a Grade I property, you have to tread particularly carefully as every detail has to be acceptable to the listed building officers, right down to paint colour.

In Hampshire, John D Wood is selling The Mill, an 18th-century Grade II listed building, on the banks of the Itchen at Shawford, near Winchester. The mill was partly converted into offices by the vendors and they are selling the remainder with planning for residential use.

"We had a lengthy debate as to whether our clients should do up the residential part and sell it finished, but we thought new owners would probably want to change it to their taste," says Philip Blanchard, of John D Wood.



a flagstone ground floor, with glasstopped coffee table, housing the original turbines of the mill. This uld make a wonderful dining hall with kitchen/breakfast room and study. On the next floor up there is space for three bedrooms, and the top floor, which is vaulted, could be

a magnificent drawing room. "The property is ready for people to model as they want," says Blanchard. "They would need to put in walls, a kitchen and bathrooms." The property, with about an acre of land. is on the market for £425,000.

Hassobury Mansion, in Farn-The three-storey mill already has fordshire, is being converted into a particularly fine property."

five houses. The 19th century mansion is set in 200 acres of parkland, of which the five owners will have the use of 12 acres

Although four houses are being sold finished, the central one with around 8,000 sq ft is currently as it was when the building was a school. With a magnificent hallway and space for eight bedrooms and four reception rooms, the developers would sell it now for around £500,000. "Finished it would be worth

around £795,000," says Tony Mullucks, of Mullucks Wells & Associates. "This is an opportunity for ham, near Bishops Stortford, Hert-someone to put their own mark on

Swannington Hall, in Norfolk is probably be acceptable and the being sold almost complete but architect's drawings and designs for without finishing touches. "The 16th century house was restored a little by a previous owner and then bought by the current vendors, who have done more work," says Louis

rooms, the house has been given only a basic lick of paint and there are no outbuildings. The vendors had applied for

permission to build a garage and extravagant leisure complex against an old brick wall, but this had been turned down as being too grandiose.

de Soisson, of FPDSavills. "There is

a planned formal garden are available to look at. The Grade II listed house, which has seven bedrooms and is set in 5.5 acres, is on the market for £458,000.

In central London, four buildings a rudimentary kitchen and bath- in Mansfield Street, which were used as the headquarters of the Building Employers Confederation, have been bought by a developer, who has split them back into individual homes.

All signs of commercial enterprise have been removed, sealed doors have been opened up and original However, simpler additions would fireplaces and ceilings have been un-

covered, but nothing more has been done to the interior.

Three are now available, and anning and listed permission has been obtained for a seven-bedroom, seven-reception room house at number 16, an eight-bedroom, fivereception room house at number 18 and a six-bedder at number 20. Egerton is selling these for £4 million, £3 million and £2.75 million respectively.

Ekins Surveyors: 01322 626700; Mullucks Wells & Associates: 01279 755400; FPDSovills: 01603 229229; John D Wood: 01962 863131; Egerton:



The mews development of the old walled garden of Burton House

A mansion's saving grace

THAT LOVELY listed building you see restored and divided into elegant, easy-to-manage flats - might never have survived the developer's ball had it not been for two factors: large grounds and VAT exemption. The grounds allow developers to

build a small mini-estate of homes that hopefully blend in with the main house. And all repairs, renovations and conversion costs on listed buildings are exempt from 17.5 per cent VAT.

conscious times it is sometimes deemed more cost-effective to demolish an unlisted mansion and replace it with yet another scheme of soulless homes. So local authorities often offer the carrot of planning consent for a number of new homes in the spacious grounds surrounding a decaying unlisted house. But, make no mistake, permission would never be granted if there was no historic house to be preserved - listed or unlisted.

David Parry, of estate agents Cluttons Daniel Smith, says: "Developers wouldn't bother without the carrot of new build, because of the onerous VAT charges levied on conversions of unlisted buildings Some intense lobbying is needed to rectify the ludicrous situation whereby solid but unlisted Victorian and Edwardian mansions are being demolished because the VAT levy

Godfrey Winterson, of Hamptons International, advises developers on converting rural mansions and says: "The arguments in favour of preserving England's green and pleasant land are environmentally sound. But more should be done to actively encourage the conversion of many more redundant buildings around the country."

could mean the difference between

The finished product can prove spectacular. So much so that 38-yearold Trevor Herbert, site manager for Grade II* listed 18th century manor, Marley House, set in 60 acres near Toines, in Devon, bought a threebedroom ground-floor apartment in the main building for £80,000.

He says: "It doesn't matter how traditional you try to make a new building look. It just won't have the mellow charm of the original although we are trying to replicate that in the new homes being built in the grounds. have been able to spend that little bit

more on restoration." Jackson-Stops & Staff and Constables are selling the remaining Marley units at £175,000.

Burton House, in West Sussex, is a Grade I listed Palladian mansion set in the 80-acre Burton Park estate. It is being converted into 12 apartments and there is permission for 33 homes in the grounds. Lord Tebbit's 33-yearold City banker son, William, and his

wife, Vanessa 32, paid £235,000 for a three-bedroom mews home - one of 10 set in the original walled garden, 200 yards from Burton House. He says: "Nowhere else could we buy a small modern house and share all this private parkland. There is a great village atmosphere and I feel I have contributed towards preserving a slice of our historic building heritage."

In contrast, Rudolf and Marlies Bak. both in their sixties, chose a grand Mrs Bak says: "We have the

elegance of a grand country estate without the responsibility. Hamptons International is selling

the remaining houses and apartments at Burton Park from £195,000.

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New York on Thames

Forget country piles, affluent Brits prefer penthouses these days. **By Robert Liebman**

ARISTOCRATS OF Britain, relax! Your daughters are safe, and so are your houses. Barrow boys and the thrusting middle classes are making independent romantic choices and buying their own luxury properties.

And luxury is increasingly being defined in Yankee, and specifically New York, terms. The movement that began with warehouse lofts a decade ago has, along with Britain's economy, moved into a new phase, and up a notch or three.

"High living has come to Britain - and The pun is intended," says Madsen Pirie, ident of the Adam Smith Institute. "High life is literal in that no expenses are spared in their life styles, and people are living in penthouses.

"In previous generations, people who made money would have tried to integrate with the landed classes. They would have bought old manors in the middle of the country. They might have aspired to marry into the junior ranks of aristocracy. Nowadays, at the top end they want a penthouse with a riverside view in the middle of the city. Even in the middle market, buyers now routinely expect properties to be kitted out to American standards."

In percentage terms as well as sheer numbers, substantial wealth has reached young people who made it economically more people, and more penthouses have been built. The latter are sprouting atop office conversions in Kensington and throughout Docklands, and in the waterside developments in cities such as Birm-

ingham and Cardiff. In the family-home middle market, developers including Crosby Laing and Bryant are using lofts to provide bonus



Manhattan transfer: Clive Sinclair in his King's Cross pad Neville Elder

to accommodate snooker tables.

Developers boast of features - secure underground parking, closed-circuit TV, doormen, and iron gates - which are really the flip-side of the less savoury aspects of New York: As in America, heightened security means insulation and isolation from outsiders, friend and foe alike. Neighbourhoods give way to enclaves.

"Costly living space in big properties in prime locations with excellent views was not previously part of the British tradition of residential property. It is relatively new over here," says Dr Pirie. "Current demand for huxury property is not just British, it is foreign, and you can detect some elements of a specifically New York lifestyle in and are prepared to spend it on such things

as luxury housing." One penthouse dweller lives in a converted warehouse in an area which has "a mixture of poor and wealthy, a buzz, and something is always happening". This admirably succinct description of New York comes courtesy of inventor Sir Clive Sindair, whose canalside penthouse is in Battlebridge

rooms and basement rooms large enough Basin, in North London. Almost literally in the shadow of King's Cross station, this is an area better known for drugs and prostitution than for designer clothes and pesto. The building was designed by architects

Harper Mackay a firm which currently has a joint venture with New York architects. David Harper notes that, in creating massive 4,000 square foot apartments, "our intention was to create the kind of magnificent spaciousness that stems from the opening up of the SoHo area of New York".

The building's developer is Colin Serlin who, along with Harry Handelsman of Manhattan Lofts, were pioneers in bringing New York's warehouse lifestyle to London. Mr Handelsman notes that his impulse to bring New York loft living to Britain had less to do with the ambience of mid-1980's easy money than with its aftermath: "Our concept was a direct consequence of the recession. No one would be interested in the ordinary. Some of the creativity started in the midst of the recession, not after it."

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HOT SPOT

PADDINGTON BASIN, WEST LONDON

Bargains in the Basin

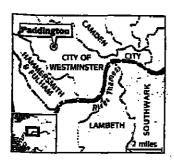
wonderful canalhomes, cafes and restaurants and, less than a quarter of a mile away and even closer to central London, Paddington Basin doesn't. The former is internationally renowned, and the latter is unknown even to many local residents. Thousands of commuters daily pass within yards of a canal that remains derelict, unloved and ignored.

This ignorance is justified. Paddington Station, the A40 and St Mary's Hospital form, like burly bodyguards, a barrier between the long 25-acre stretch of water and the outside world. It is near impossible even to get a peek, and except for people connected to the Dudley Estate council flats or community school and centre within the basin area, there are no reasons at all to go there.

All change! Frogmore-Rialto plans to build 500 canalside residential units, and Regalian will construct more than 200 one, two, and three-bedroom flats, many with balconies or roof terraces. These luxury developments will include offices. food and drink premises, and retail outlets. Paddington Basin itself will be dolled up.

The changes have already begun. Deon Steyn of estate agents Cluttons Daniel Smith says that, since the arrival of the Heathrow Express, "we have already seen a notable increase in expatriates, international businessmen and airport executives looking for a pied-a-terre and smallish flats". Eitan Fox, sales manager of Plaza Estates, reports a lot of interest from French buvers.

Always attractive to people



eager to get away to the country, the Paddington station area is now also luring those desirous of getting out of the country.

The area remains a meltingpot: "We are getting Irish investors from Dublin. We also have overseas buyers from Turkey, Italy, India and Pakistan, mainly investors or people looking for homes for their children studying at university in London," says Mr Fox.

The diverse population is served by a healthy mix of properties: period homes, new and newish flats and mews houses. Prior to the Heathrow Express pulling in, "the residential area in and around Paddington and eastern Bayswater was greatly undervalued, despite its large stock of impressive Georgian housing, proximity to Hyde Park and Lancaster Gate, and good public transport," says Mr Steyn.

In the nearby Hyde Park Estate, four- and five-storey period homes are available at prices which, while hefty, may also be considered bargain-basement compared to their equivalents in, say, Cheisea, which would cost an extra £500,000.

This principle holds true for Paddington Basin generally. "The area around St Mary's Hospital was ignored for many years," says Mr Fox, "so the prices are cheap." For the

ROBERT LIEBMAN



Paddington Basin... all quiet on the waterfront

Mark Chilpers

THE LOW-DOWN

Westminster, Band A is £216,

Band D is £325. The highest

bands, where most of these

properties fall, are only £542

(Band G) and £650 (Band H).

Park and Ride: Hyde Park,

are minutes away by foot.

Oxford Street and Little Venice

Transport: the Heathrow Express takes 15 minutes and runs every 15 minutes, between 05.10 and 23.40 (a few minutes extra for Terminal 4). Paddington will have 27 airline check-in desks.

Prices: one-bedroom flats can sell for as little as £85,000 if they are small and tired, and as much as £200,000 if large and awake, say local agents. Service range from the low hundreds per year to more than £5,000. The least-expensive freehold house goes for about £300,000.

Mews: The large variety of

leasehold or freehold mews The Full Monty: By 2000, the largest convention hotel in houses includes fairly modern Europe will be the refurbished as well as period properties. London Mews estate agents Stakis London Metropole specialise in these properties, Hotel on Edgware Road. Area which start at about £400,000 Underground and Paddington stations are getting facelifts. and, in W2, rise to about £1m. and St Mary's Hospital -One leasehold mews house in SW1 has a £4.5m price tag. where Penicillin discoverer Alexander Fleming's labora-Council Tax: In super-low tory is now a museum - is

> Estate Agents: Cluttons Daniel Smith, 0171-262 2226; London Mews Company 0171-402 3275; Plaza Estates. 0171-724 3100; Paddington Regeneration Partnership; 0171-313 1011.

getting a cash injection.

STEPPING STONES

ONE FAMILY'S PROPERTY STORY

CHRIS WRIGHT has bought three properties since 1975. He now lives with his parents in Yorkshire.

Chris and wife Jan's first purchase was a terraced house in Manchester for £5,650. The attractive exterior belied internal anomalies: "When previous owners split something on the line they laid another layer." Plus, the street became less quiet "We offended the neighbours with parties full of people with not much on and we had no curtains."

In 1977 the couple moved to London after selling for £6,000, a move Chris sees as a bad mistake: We were renting while prices rocketed." Jan's pregnancy the following year prompted a move out of London to a 400-year-old house on the Isle of Ely, bought for £17,500, where they kept livestock and had three children in four years. Chris commuted 70 "expensive and tiring" miles daily: "It was hard getting home and finding the kids had played up and there was no dinner.

Exhausted, Chris jumped at the chance of a "golden handshake" which was used to fund an African adventure. Renting out their house, they travelled and slept in a Land Rover with their children aged four, two and one: "We wanted to show that having kids doesn't have to stop you travelling."

The trip was "marvellous" until cut short by an accident in Cameroon. The family was saved by a "wonderful man with two wives" who patched up the van and found them a temporary home, a mud hut where they spent Christmas getting water from a hole in the ground. The van limped home but they arrived back with itchy feet: "We longed for the space of Africa and the nearest to that in Europe is Portugal."

In 1985 they sold for £51,000, packed their belongings in a caravan and bought an abandoned Portuguese farm for £13,500. The isolated valley held 25 acres of "eagles, butterflies and wonderful climate" but no water or electricity. Chris has happy memories of years "trying and failing to be self sufficient", even when the worst rains in 40 years forced them to



live in a shack with plastic sheeting roofing and an oil-drum stove.

They started up a school and eventually sold their smallholding for £42,000, when their children's need for secondary schools meant inoving to a city, where they rented. In 1998 their first son started university in the UK, so the family returned and are now living with Chris's parents in his childhood home.

They are considering buying a terraced house in Manchester for £30,000, completing a full circle of moves spanning several continents. Chris's advice? "Don't worry about the future - it's about doing things, not having things."
GINETTA VEDRICKAS

Those moves in brief... 1975 - bought Manchester terrace for £5,650; sold for £6,000 in 1977. 1978 – bought 400-year-old house on Isle of Ely for £17,500; sold for £51,000. 1985 - bought Portuguese farm for £13,000; sold for £42,000 in 1997. 1998 - about to buy Manchester terrace for £30,000.

If you would like your moves to be featured write to: Nic Cicutti. Stepping Stones. One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL. £100 will be awarded for the

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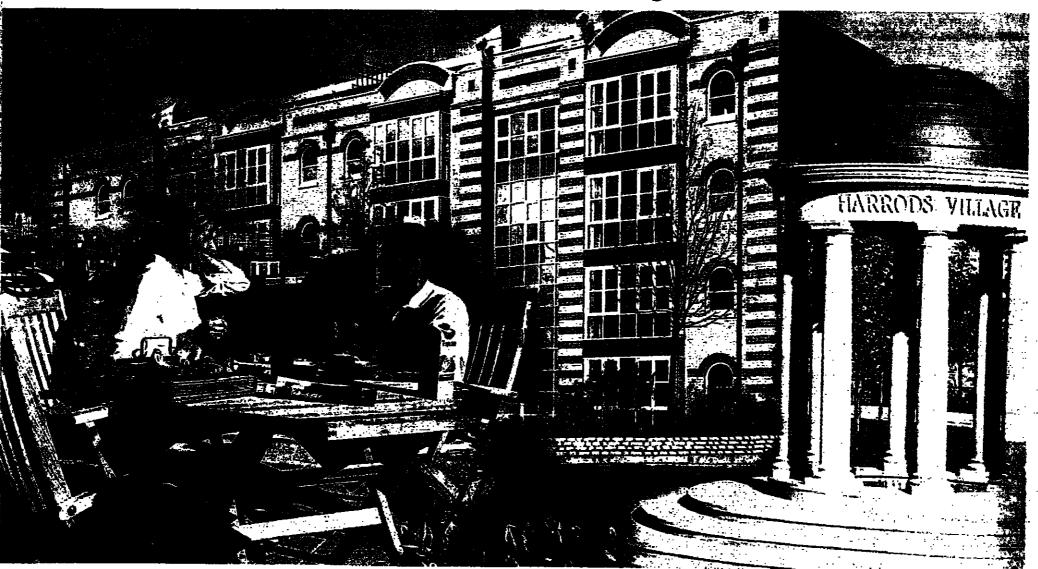
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